

# **WILDCAT**<sup>TM</sup>

A **Vermeer** Company

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• *TROMMEL SCREENS* • *COMPOST TURNERS* •

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Via Facsimile 202-366-7882

Original via US First Class Mail

To: Mr. Jon White, Chief  
Defects and Recall Information Analysis Division  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington DC 20590

**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**

Report Date: 4-19-2010

On or about December 15, 2009, Wildcat Mfg. Co., Incorporated determined that there is a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety with respect to certain motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

**Fabricating Manufacturer:**

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Freeman SD 57029  
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Fax: 605-925-7536

**WILDCAT MFG CO., INCORPORATED**  
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Report Date: 04-19-2010

Contact Name and Title: Curt Strand, Project Engineer  
Wildcat Mfg. Co., Incorporated  
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And

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Product Safety & Legal Department  
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*Parent Corporation of Wildcat Mfg. Co., Incorporated*

Name and Title of Person Who Prepared Report: Scott Eberts, General Manager  
Wildcat Mfg. Co., Incorporated

Signed:  Date: 4/19/10

**I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall**

Manufacturer's Identification Code: WC01-0110

**Vehicle Identification:**

<b>Make:</b>	Wildcat	<b>Model Years Involved:</b>	2004 - 2009	
<b>Model(s):</b>	510, 510LT			
<b>Production Dates:</b>	<b>Beginning:</b>	04-08-2004	<b>Ending:</b>	12-31-2009
<b>VIN Range:</b>	<b>Beginning:</b>	1W9SS26274F351262	<b>Ending:</b>	1W98261A39F351716
<b>Vehicle Type:</b>	Trailer - Single axle trommel screen			

Description which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall: The VIN Range includes 74 units with Model designations of 510 or 510LT. The VIN range shown above also includes other units with differing Model designations not included in this recall.

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Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

100%

II. Identify the Recall Population

Total Number of Vehicles Recalled Potentially containing the defect or noncompliance:

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
510LT	2007	4
510LT	2008	2
510LT	2009	1
510	2004	18
510	2005	17
510	2006	14
510	2007	4
510	2008	6
510	2009	8
<b>Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:</b>		<b>74</b>

Approximate percentage of Total Number of Vehicles Estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

100%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined, in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles: From manufacturing records, we were able to determine that the 74 units were built with the same tongue configuration.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

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Model 510 units, with serial numbers between 351262 - 351716, and Model 510LT, with serial numbers between 351527 - 351705, were equipped with an adjustable length tongue assembly, item number WC-20070 (Exhibit A). The pintle eye (Item number TRL-9035) used in the tongue assembly does not have an adequate vertical or horizontal load rating for the gross weight of the vehicle.

**Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.**

The pintle eye on the hitch was incorrectly sized for the gross weight of the vehicle

**Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.**

The pintle eye could fail resulting in separation of the tongue from the tow vehicle. Complete separation from the tow vehicle is prevented by the dual safety chains.

**Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.**

- (a) Visible cracking of the pintle eye at the transition of the eye loop to the shaft that attaches the eye to the tongue.

**If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.**

Not applicable

**Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier.**

Not applicable

**IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance**

*If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.*

**With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.**

- 12/15/2009: During an internal re-evaluation of the GVWR of Models 510 and 510LT, it was determined that the pintle eye load rating was inadequate for the weight of the vehicle. No notifications of failures from the field have been received.
- 01/27/2010: No warranty claims have been submitted for replacement of the pintle eye (P/N TRL-9035)

**With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.**

Not applicable.

**Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.**

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Engineering has specified a larger pintle eye that has an adequate load rating to support the machine tongue weight and handle the horizontal force from the vehicle.

**Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.**

Field kit modifications are currently under development. The new pintle eye load rating is sufficient to handle both the vertical and horizontal forces from the vehicle.

**Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.**

The tongue assembly was redesigned to allow the use of the new pintle eye in January, 2010.

### VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

**Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.**

- 05/07/10: Complete development of field modification kit, including procurement of replacement parts and installation instructions.
  
- 05/12/10: Publish Service Bulletin and Kit Instructions to dealers introducing field modification kit via Vermeer Corporation internet site and email notification to Wildcat dealers not affiliated with Vermeer organization.
  
- 05/14/10: Provide listing of affected units in their area to dealers via fax.
  
- 05/28/10: Notify owners of mandatory field modification via certified mail.

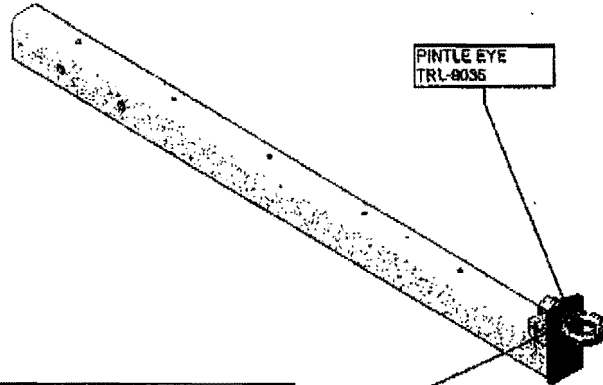
### VII. Furnish Recall Communications

**Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.**

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EXHIBIT A  
TONGUE ASSEMBLY  
WC-20070



PINTLE EYE  
TRL-9035

FIELD KIT WILL MODIFY THE MOUNTING PLATE ON  
THE FRONT END OF THE EXISTING TONGUE  
ASSEMBLY AND A LARGER CAPACITY PINTLE EYE  
WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING EYE

