



2135 W. Maple Rd
arvinmeritoinc.com
Troy, MI 48084

10E-014
(3 pages)

April 30, 2010

Administrator of Enforcement
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Fax: 202-366-7882

Re: Defect Information Report, in accordance with 49 CFR §573.6, concerning certain front and tag axles shipped to ArvinMeritor customers between August 10, 2009 and April 6, 2010.

ArvinMeritor File: C10AA

NHTSA File: Unassigned

Dear Sir /Madam:

ArvinMeritor, Inc. submits this Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR §573.6. The information is presented to correspond to the sub-paragraphs of section §573.6(c).

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(1)

This report is submitted by:
ArvinMeritor, Inc.
2135 West Maple Road
Troy, Michigan 48084-7186

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(2):

The affected motor vehicle equipment are front and tag axles assembled at ArvinMeritor Newark, Ohio facility located at 444 Hebron Road, Heath, Ohio 43055, and shipped to ArvinMeritor customers between August 10, 2009 and April 6, 2010. A list of affected customers and quantities is contained in Appendix A of this notice.

The population of potential affected axles was determined by shipment records maintained by ArvinMeritor's Heath facility.

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(3):

ArvinMeritor has determined that approximately 685 axles were shipped during the suspect period. The axles may have had incorrect torque applied to the wheel adapter during the assembly process

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(4):

ArvinMeritor has determined that approximately 100% of the above mentioned population of axles may exhibit the conditions described in the paragraphs immediately below.

Information Requested under §§573.6(c)(5):



The suspect axles may have had improper amount of torque applied to the wheel adapter during the assembly process. A reduced bolt torque potentially reduces the clamp force which, in turn, could lead to a vibration loosening concern. Complete loss of clamp load could result in a wheel off condition. There is also a concern that the operational loads could be greater than the bolt clamping forces, which can lead to possible bolt fatigue issues

Information Requested under §§573.6(c)(6):

- April 8, 2010 – MCI reported an incident where one bolt backed out of wheel adapter / rotor / hub bearing joint. This incident happened on a new vehicle completing an initial shakedown test run.
- April 8, 2010 – Containment started at ArM assembly plant to verify torque on all axles
- April 9, 2010 – MCI and Newark bolt torque verification checks revealed that other new production axles have bolts that were measured lower than the torque specification.

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(7):

There is no impact of this issue towards non-compliance with a motor vehicle standard.

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(8):

ArvinMeritor is in process of developing the Defect Information Notice to its customers and will submit that information to NHTSA as soon as available. The following is an approximate schedule for the program:

5/30/10 Complete notification to affected customers.

In addition, ArvinMeritor has determined that none of the suspect axles have been remedied prior to this notification and, therefore, that no general pre-notification reimbursement remedy program is required.

We trust that the information provided in this document is fully responsive to the requirements of 49 CFR §573.5. All additions or modifications to any of the information given will be reported promptly to NHTSA. Any questions with respect to the information provided should be directed to the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nirav Parikh
Regional Quality Manager &
Project Manger - Product Safety and Compliance
ArvinMeritor

Enclosures



Appendix A: Summary of affected customer.

Motor Coach Industries
1475 Clarence Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3T 1T5 Canada



2135 W. Maple Rd
Troy, MI 48084

arvinmeritor.com

May 7, 2010

Antoinette McKee
Sourcing Manager
Motor Coach Industries
1700 East Golf Road
Schaumburg, IL 60173

NOTICE: Defect Information Report, in accordance with 49 CFR §573.6, concerning certain front and tag axles shipped to ArvinMeritor customers between August 10, 2009 and April 6, 2010.

ArvinMeritor File: C10AA

NHTSA File: 10E-014

Dear Sir /Madam

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

ArvinMeritor has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain of its FH 941 and FH946 Front Non-Drive Steer Axles, and MC14 and MC16 Series Tag Axles axles. The affected motor vehicle equipment are front steer and rear tag axles assembled at ArvinMeritor Heath, Ohio facility located at 444 Hebron Road, Heath, Ohio 43055, and shipped to ArvinMeritor customers between August 10, 2009 and April 6, 2010. A list of affected axle and serial numbers is contained in Appendix A of this notice.

The population of potential affected axles was determined by shipment records maintained by ArvinMeritor's Heath facility.

Description of Defect

The suspect axles may have had improper amount of torque applied to the hub/rotor/wheel adapter bolts during the assembly process. A reduced bolt torque potentially reduces the clamp force which, in turn, could lead to a vibration loosening concern. Complete loss of clamp load could result in a wheel off condition. There is also a concern that the operational loads could be greater than the bolt clamping forces, which can lead to possible bolt fatigue issues.

NHTSA Notification & Safety Recall Obligations

According to our records, affected units were shipped to your company. If those units were installed as original equipment on vehicles manufactured at your facility, and you agree that they contain a safety defect, your company must notify the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) within 5 business days and conduct a safety recall of those vehicles. It is critical that the NHTSA guidelines are followed in a timely manner and that your customers are notified to conduct the remedy described below.

IMPORTANT: Some of the affected vehicles may still be in your inventory. Federal law requires you to complete the recall service on these vehicles before delivery. ArvinMeritor will provide replacement or repair for these units prior to delivery to your customers.



You must also submit your draft version of your dealer and customer notices to NHTSA for approval at least 5 days prior to mailing such notification to dealers and owners of potentially affected wheel ends. You may contact NHTSA with questions by sending an email to rmd.odi@dot.gov.

IMPORTANT: Dealer notification by Certified Mail is required by Federal law for all safety recalls. Responsible dealership personnel should be instructed to sign for this Certified Mail without hesitation as it contains urgent safety recall information. Notifications to owners of potentially affected vehicles are by first class mail. Please be advised that the outside of each envelope containing an owner notification letter must be marked "SAFETY RECALL NOTICE" all in capital letters, either in boldface or underlined, and in type that is larger than that used in the address section. A sample of the envelope must be submitted to NHTSA for approval at least 5 business days before mailing to owners.

Recommended Action

ArvinMeritor recommends that owners of vehicles originally equipped with ArvinMeritor axle assemblies containing the suspect axles use the inspection procedure provided in ArvinMeritor Technical Publication TP-10110. The repair procedure within this technical bulletin can be used to inspect torque and replace bolts that have had an improper amount of torque applied.

NOTE: Not all bolts will need to be replaced. Only replace bolts that are identified as having a torque value of less than 150 ft-lbs in the procedure outlined within the TP-10110.

The affected vehicles should be inspected and repaired as soon as feasible by a vehicle manufacturers' authorized repair facility or end-user. This inspection program will be managed by ArvinMeritor, and will be at no expense to vehicle owners.

Identification of Affected Parts

The suspect population information containing the suspect axle serial numbers is attached with this notification.

Vehicle manufacturers are requested to provide VIN information and Vehicle In-Service Dates for the corresponding suspect axle serial numbers for traceability and reporting purposes. The requested information is to be forwarded to:

Anthony Seppey
Anthony.Seppey@ArvinMeritor.com
Specialty Service Manager – Troy, MI
Ph 248.435.0896 Fax 248-435-1208

Inspection of the adaptor plate bolt torque, will determine if bolt replacement is required during the torque validation of the bolts. Additional details for inspection and replacement values are described in the ArvinMeritor Technical Publication TP-10110, attached to this notice.



Availability of Replacement Parts and Service Instructions

Replacement part 10-X-1711 is currently available at ArvinMeritor's aftermarket distribution center in Florence, KY.

Parts, Labor and Handling Allowance

The following are the details of allowances relating to parts, labor and handling available to vehicle manufacturers' (OEM):

- Parts and labor cost will be reimbursed through standard warranty.
- ArvinMeritor will reimburse as the standard repair time (SRT) of 1/4 hour per wheel end for inspection and an additional 1/10th hour per 1-2 bolts for replacement.

Removed Material Disposition

Repair facilities should change identified suspect bolts that have had improper amount of torque applied to the wheel adapter only on an identified vehicle axle. Removed bolts should not be reused. The removed fasteners should be destroyed and discarded.

Claims for Credit

ArvinMeritor will accept warranty claims for inspecting bolt torque and replacing a bolt that has had an improper amount of torque applied to the wheel adapter associated with this notice directly from the vehicle manufacturers (OEM). To obtain credit for the claim; the repair facility should file with their OEM and the OEM will reimburse the repair facility for the work. ArvinMeritor will reimburse the OEM through its standard warranty process.

In order to receive proper credit, such warranty claims must contain the following information at the time of submission:

- Reference to ArvinMeritor Campaign ID Number: C10AA
- Reference to NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 10E-014
- Reference to the vehicle manufacturer's campaign number (optional)
- 17-digit vehicle identification number (VIN)
- Axle serial number
- Vehicle owner's name, address, and telephone number
- Vehicle in-service date
- Vehicle repair date
- Vehicle mileage at the time of repair
- Dealer work order number
- Repairing facility name, address, and telephone number
- Total labor hours required performing the work, not to exceed agreed formula
- Repair facilities hourly rate
- Filled out data sheet within TP-10110
- Tracking number for shipment of returned suspect studs.

Failure to provide complete information will delay processing of the warranty claim.



Communication

If you conclude that ArvinMeritor has not enabled you to remedy this condition in a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the:

Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

- or -

Call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hotline: 1-888-327-4236; (TTY: 800-424-9153
or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>

We regret any inconvenience that this situation may cause. ArvinMeritor wants to assure you that we are concerned for customer safety and your continued satisfaction with our products.

Sincerely,

ArvinMeritor

Frank Cookson
Manager of Customer Service

Attachments: