



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 13, 2011

MS. SUSAN HARMON, P.E.
PRODUCT SAFETY ENGINEER
THE CHARLES MACHINE WORKS INC.
P.O. BOX 66
PERRY, OK 73077

NVS-215dgl
11V-226

SUBJECT: TANK MOUNTS

DEAR MS. HARMON:

This letter serves to acknowledge The Charles Machine Works Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

DITCH WITCH/T9S/2009-2011
DITCH WITCH/T9SH/2009-2011
DITCH WITCH/T12SE/2009-2011
DITCH WITCH/T18S/2000-2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-226

Mfg's Report Date: March 30, 2011

Components: EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1476

Summary:

THE CHARLES MACHINE IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2000-2011 DITCH WITCH CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT TRAILER EQUIPPED WITH 500 GALLON VACUUM EXCAVATORS. THE TANK MOUNTING CAN BREAK WHICH CAN ALLOW THE TANK TO FALL FROM THE TRAILER DURING DUMPING OR TRANSPORTING.

Consequence:

A FALLING TANK FROM THE TRAILER COULD INCREASE THE RISK OF A CRASH OR COULD CRUSH BYSTANDERS OR WORKERS INCREASING THE RISK OF INJURIES.

Remedy:

KITS WERE CREATED TO REDISTRIBUTE THE WEIGHT OF THE SPOILS TANK MORE UNIFORMLY ACROSS THE TRAILER. DEALERS WILL ORDER THE APPROPRIATE KITS TO REMEDY THE TRAILERS FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2011. OWNER MAY CONTACT THE CHARLES MACHINE WORKS, INC., TELEPHONE 1-800-654-6481. OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES, CALL 580-336-4426 EXT. 8833.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets all the requirements of Part 577.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

Please provide us with the quantity of vehicles involved for this recall.

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement