



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

October 5, 2011

MR. MARVIN WHITT  
WARRANTY MANAGER  
TRANSCRAFT CORPORATION  
P.O. BOX 1639  
CADIZ, KY 42211

NVS-215kjs  
11V-488

**SUBJECT:** AUTOMATIC SLACK ADJUSTER/ACCURIDE/GUNITE

**DEAR MR. WHITT:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Transcraft Corporation's (Transcraft) 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:**

TRANSCRAFT/PLATFORM/2010-2011

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 11V-488      **Mfg's Report Date:** September 19, 2011

**Components:** SERVICE BRAKES, AIR:SLACK ADJUSTERS:AUTOMATIC

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 290

**Summary:**

TRANSCRAFT IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2010 AND 2011 PLATFORM SEMI-TRAILERS MANUFACTURED FROM OCTOBER 15, 2010, THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2011, AND EQUIPPED WITH GUNITE AUTOMATIC SLACK ADJUSTERS. DUE TO AN INCOMPLETE "KNITTING" OF THE IRON AT THE TIME OF CASTING, INADEQUATE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE SLACK ADJUSTER HOUSING CAN OCCUR, WHICH COULD CAUSE THE HOUSING TO BREAK AT THE HANDLE UNDER NORMAL OPERATING LOADS.

**Consequence:**

IF THE SLACK ADJUSTER HOUSING WERE TO BREAK, THE WHEEL BRAKE TO WHICH THE SLACK ADJUSTER IS ATTACHED WOULD NO LONGER FUNCTION, CAUSING THE VEHICLE TO HAVE REDUCED BRAKING CAPACITY AND, IF MOUNTED ON THE STEER AXLE, THE VEHICLE COULD PULL TO ONE SIDE, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

TRANSCRAFT WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND THE SLACK ADJUSTERS WILL BE REPLACED FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING OCTOBER 2011. OWNERS MAY CONTACT ACCURIDE AT 1-812-962-5000 OR TRANSCRAFT AT 1-877-489-9020.

**Notes:**

CUSTOMERS MAY 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).

As stated in your report, Accuride will be handling the owner notification, remedy, and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.6 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Accuride's campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5227, by email at [Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Willard", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Ric Willard  
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement