



The First Name In Trailers

January 25, 2011

Via FedEx

NHTSA - Associate Administrator for Enforcement
Office of Defects Investigation, Defects Div. NVS-211
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC. 20590

Dear Recipient:

As required by Federal Regulation 49 CFR Part 573; we are submitting the enclosed following communiqués.

- **Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**
- **Dealership Advisement Letter – SB-08-135 ArvinMeritor - Tech Bulletin – Defect Information Notice: Concerning Spindle Nuts & Stake Washer on certain ArvinMeritor TL Series TL axles**
- **(Public Notice) ArvinMeritor File: C11AB NHTS Campaign ID No: 10E-058 ArvinMeritor - Availability of Replacement Parts and Service Instructions**
- **ArvinMeritor - Tech Bulletin - TP-0860 Procedures and Intervals to Inspect the Wheel Ends and Tighten the Spindle Nuts on Meritor TL Series Trailer Axles with Unitized Wheel Ends**

Respectfully submitted,

Blas Gonzalez, Regional Manager
Field Service Department
Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report³

On **January, 19 2011** Utility Trailer Manufacturing Co. confirmed a condition that may relate to motor vehicle safety in the 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.

Date this report was prepared: **January 24, 2011**

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): **ArvinMeritor – C11AB**, manufacturer of the recalled component.

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

UTILITY TRAILER MANUFACTURING COMPANY
17295 E. RAILROAD STREET
CITY OF INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA 91748

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Sal Molina, Manager
Field Service Department
Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company

Telephone Number: **626-854-7215**

Fax Number: **626-965-5660**

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Blas Gonzalez
Regional Field Service Manager
Field Service Department

Signed: _____

B. Gonzalez

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

³ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition, which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

2. **Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle, provide:**

Make(s): UTILITY Model Years Involved: 2007-2009 Model(s): as follows: Refrigerated and Dry Vans (Single axle, dual axle and tri-axle, commercial, semi refrigerated and dry vans)

Production Dates: Beginning: August 2006 Ending: January 2008

VIN Range: Beginning: 1UYVS25337U032301 Ending: 1UYVS253X9M587605

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recall vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Refrigerated and Dry Vans Manufactured with the option: Meritor TL Series Trailer Axles with Unitized Wheel Ends

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 involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 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

3. **Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.**

Model	Model Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
<u>VS2RA</u>	<u>2007-2009</u>	<u>221</u>
<u>VS2DX</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>15</u>

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 224

4. **Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect of noncompliance: 21%**

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:

The axles were equipped with the suspension system, manufactured by ArvinMeritor. A record search was made of all trailers on which the suspension systems were installed. All such axles were identified as being manufactured between April 2005-July 2008. All such trailers were identified as being manufactured between August 2006 – January 2008.

III. Describe the Defect or Non Compliance

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

ArvinMeritor has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exist in certain ArvinMeritor Trailers axle's wheel end systems. The affected motor vehicle equipment is ArvinMeritor TL Series trailer axles assembled at ArvinMeritor's Frankfort, Kentucky facility.

Also, see the attached notices and inspection / installation instructions:

- **Dealership Advisement Letter – SB-08-135 ArvinMeritor - Tech Bulletin – Defect Information Notice: Concerning Spindle Nuts & Stake Washer on certain ArvinMeritor TL Series TL axles**
- **(Public Notice) ArvinMeritor File: C11AB NHTS Campaign ID No: 10E-058 ArvinMeritor - Availability of Replacement Parts and Service Instructions**
- **ArvinMeritor - Tech Bulletin - TP-0860 Procedures and Intervals to Inspect the Wheel Ends and Tighten the Spindle Nuts on Meritor TL Series Trailer Axles with Unitized Wheel Ends**

- Describe the cause(s) of the defect:

Refer to the ArvinMeritor Tech Bulletin – TP-0860, dated 01-10, attached.

- Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition:

The defect can result in excessive end play in the wheel end system and could progress to a wheel separation which could result in a crash. Refer to NHTS Campaign ID No: 10E-058, attached.

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

NA

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

ARVINMERITOR, MERITOR HEAVY VEHICLE SYSTEM, LLC
2135 WEST, MAPLE RAOD
TROY, MI 48084

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

Mr. Nirav Parikh, Regional Quality Manager and Jeremy Tertzakian, Technical Manager

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

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

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all 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.

01/11/11: This department received notification by email and later by mail from ArvinMeritor of the recall. No known incidents had been reported to Utility.

7. 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.

01/11/11: This department received notification by email and later by mail from ArvinMeritor of the recall. No known incidents had been reported to Utility.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect of non-compliance. Clearly describe the difference between the recall condition and the remedy.

ArvinMeritor has notified Utility. Utility is working with its independently owned Dealership Network to contact all owners of the affected suspension systems. The affected vehicles will be repaired free of charge by ArvinMeritor. The safety recall is expected to begin during January 2011. Owners may contact ArvinMeritor at 866-668-7221 or their primary Utility contact.

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

Refer to the ArvinMeritor Tech Bulletin – TP-0860, dated 01/10, attached.

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 product was revised in August of 2008 by ArvinMeritor. There was not any existing product in our inventory with the said defect. No repair was necessary.

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.

Utility does not intend to send another notification to dealers or end users as this has already been completed. Utility continues to monitor the completion of this work. It is our intent to continue monitoring until all identified trailers have been inspected and repaired if necessary. Utility does not foresee any problems with implementing the inspection and recall.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect of 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 document should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.