

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On March 14, 2011, Wabash National was notified by Accuride Corporation(Gunite) that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in items of motor vehicle equipment 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: 03/18/2011

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable):

[Gunite Automatic slack Adjuster – NHTSA Recall Notice No. 11E-008, Gunite Inspection Document # GUN2.0014](#)

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer/brand name/trademark owner of the recalled item of equipment. If the recalled item of equipment is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

[Wabash National Corporation](#)

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

[Mitchell A. Robbins](#)

[Warranty Manager](#)

Telephone Number: 765-771-5605 Fax No.: 765-771-5552

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

[Mitchell A. Robbins, Warranty Manager](#)

Signed:

¹Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, 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 Jennifer Timian at (202) 366-0209, by FAX at (202) 366-7882, or E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov.

I. Identify the Recalled Items of Equipment

2. Identify the Items of Equipment Involved in this Recall, for each make and model or applicable item of equipment product line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the item of equipment), provide:

Generic name of the item:

Make: [Wabash](#) **Model:** [Van](#)

Part Number: [VIN identity](#) **Size:** [Various](#)

Function: [Semi-Trailer](#)

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

[Equipped with Gunite Automatic Slack Adjusters](#)

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 Equipment equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996, through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Equipment of all Equipment manufactured during that time period.

[Products provided by Accuride/Gunite identified in this notice totaled 20,158 slack adjusters which were installed in approximately 5,200 units built by Wabash National in the time frame from October 15, 2010 to January 31, 2011. Trailer production volume in this same period was approximately 11,100 units. This equates to an estimated percentage of 47%](#)

II. Identifying the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of items of equipment recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Items		Number of
Model	Year	Potentially
Involved		
Van	2010 to 2011	~5,200 units
Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:		Approximately 5,200 units

4. **Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:** [Wabash National has not been provided this information in the notice.](#)

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 items of equipment: [Product ship dates from Accuride/Gunite were used to determine population of effected VIN's containing these supplied products by conducting a where used query for VIN's of units built in this same time period, October 15, 2010 to January 31, 2011.](#)

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. **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.**

[Reference Accuride/Gunite # GUN2.0014 or NHTSA File # 11E-008](#)

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

[Reference Accuride/Gunite # GUN2.0014 or NHTSA File # 11E-008](#)

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

[Reference Accuride/Gunite # GUN2.0014 or NHTSA File # 11E-008](#)

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

[Reference Accuride/Gunite # GUN2.0014 or NHTSA File # 11E-008](#)

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

[Reference Accuride/Gunite # GUN2.0014 or NHTSA File # 11E-008](#)

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

[Mr. William Noll, Vice President, Corporate Quality Accuride Corporation](#)

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 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. [Upon notification from Accuride/Gunite of the defect, Wabash National then determined which equipment and customer\(s\) were affected regarding Van model semi trailers and notified them accordingly.](#)

V. Identify the Remedy

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

[Reference Accuride/Gunite # GUN2.0014 or NHTSA File # 11E-008](#)

[Wabash National will notify affected end customer\(s\) as required per VIN population.](#)

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

[Reference Accuride/Gunite # GUN2.0014 or NHTSA File # 11E-008](#)

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.

[Wabash National has not been provided this information in the notice.](#)

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.

[Wabash National will notify affected customer\(s\) no later than 3/28/2011.](#)

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. 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) or by E-Mail (*RMD.ODI@dot.gov*) for review prior to mailing.

[Copy of customer Notification Letter attached for reference.](#)