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The First Name In Trailers

March 16, 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-08-138 Gunite Safety Recall/ Inspection: Gunite Automatic Slack Adjuster Inspection Instructions**
- **Gunite- Service Advisory, Inspection Instruction, No. GUN2.0014**
- **Gunite Labor Allowances Letter**

Respectfully submitted,

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

Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company
17295 E. Railroad Street, City of Industry, California 91748 / (626) 965-1541
Web Site: www.utilitytrailer.com

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report³

On **March 15, 2011** **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: **March 16, 2011**

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): N/A, 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: _____

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: 2011-2012 Model(s): as follows: Refrigerated Vans (Dual Axel)

Production Dates: Beginning: December 2010 Ending: March 2011

VIN Range: Beginning: 1UYVS2537BU199401 Ending: 1UYVS2538CU242225

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

Refrigerated Vans Manufactured with Gunite Automatic Slack Adjusters that contain the combined lot number and mold line number from the Gunite Service Advisory Letter

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. 1.54 %

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>2011-2011</u>	<u>105</u>

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 105

4. **Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect of noncompliance: 1.54%**

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:

Trailers that had Automatic Slack Adjusters manufactured by Gunite. A record search was made of all trailers where these Slack Adjusters were installed. All such trailers were identified as being manufactured between December 2010-March 2011.

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.

Gunite is recalling certain Automatic Slack Adjusters installed as original equipment on various heavy duty trucks. The suspect Slack Adjusters may have been built with a cast housing defect.

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

- **Dealership Advisement Letter – SB-08-138 Gunite Saftey Recall/ Inspection: Gunite Automatic Slack Adjuster Inspection Instructions**
- **Gunite- Service Advisory, Inspection Instruction, No. GUN2.0014**
- **Gunite Labor Allowances Letter**

- Describe the cause(s) of the defect:

Refer to the Gunite- service Advisory- GUN2.0104, dated 2-11, attached.

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

The defect has the potential to cause a break and allow the foundation brakes to turn on, locking up the wheel position. Refer to NHTSA Campaign ID No: 11E-008, attached.

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

None

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

Gunite Corp./ Accuride Company
302 Peoples Avenue
Rockford, Illinois, 61104

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

Bill Noll, Vice President, Corporate Quality, Accuride Company

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.

03/10/11: This department received recall notification by email on 3/10/11 and later by mail received on 3/14/11 from Accuride. 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.

03/15/11: This department identified which trailers were affected and acknowledges that a noncompliance exists on Utility trailers. 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.

Gunite has notified Utility. Utility is working with its independently owned Dealership Network to contact all owners of the affected Slack Adjusters. The affected vehicles will be repaired free of charge by Gunite. The safety recall is expected to begin during March 2011. Owners may contact Gunite at 800-677-3786 or their primary Utility contact.

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

Refer to the Gunite- Service Advisory – GUN2.0014, dated 02/11, 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 remaining product inventory was inspected prior to departure. Defective components were identified in production. However, those components were removed from production and sent back to Gunite.

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.