

## Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report<sup>1</sup>

On March 1, 2011 Altec Industries Inc decided that a condition which relates to motor vehicle safety exists 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 Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: **May 18, 2011**

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): **CSN 545**

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.

### **Altec Industries, Inc**

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

**Joshua T. Chard**  
**Director, Corporate and Product Safety**

Telephone Number: **205-408-8627** Fax No.: **205-981-3733**

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

**Philip D. Purdy**  
**Manager, Media**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



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## **I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall**

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): **Altec** Model Years Involved: **2008-2009** Model(s): **DM 45/47/50**

Production Dates: Beginning: **January, 2010** Ending: **September, 2010**

VIN Range: Beginning: **N/A** Ending: **N/A**

Vehicle Type: **Digger Derrick** Bodystyle: **N/A**

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

**This recall only affects Altec DM45/47/50 Digger Derricks built from January 2010 through September 2010.**

## **II. Identify the Recall Population**

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

<u>Model</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</u>
<b>DM45/47/50</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>227</b>

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: **227**

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: **25%**

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 recall population was determined by reviewing production and quality records to identify units that were manufactured using hydraulic cylinders with specific heat treat lot numbers.**

### **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.

**Altec has become aware that the rod end castings used on vendor supplied hydraulic cylinders may contain cracks created during the heat treating process.**

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

**Cylinder component suppliers heat treating process.**

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

**Cracks in the rod eye casting on the hydraulic boom lift cylinder could cause the cylinder to fail.**

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

**This area of the digger is identified in the manual as an area to be periodically inspected. If cracks begin to form, they should be visible during the inspection.**

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

**Hensley Industries, Inc.  
2108 Joe Field Road  
Dallas, TX 75229**

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

**Bob Hildebrandt**

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#### **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.

**In November 2010, a customer reported the visual discovery of a crack in the rod eye casting of the hydraulic cylinder responsible for lifting the main boom of a digger derrick. In December 2010, the cracked rod eye was evaluated by Altec and sent on to the casting supplier for evaluation. The supplier determined that the crack in the rod eye casting was one that should have been discovered and rejected in the casting manufacturing process but was not due to inconsistencies in the supplier's inspection process. In February 2011, the casting supplier determined that the insufficient inspection affected two unique heat-treat runs for a total of 227 rod eye castings. In March 2011, the Altec units that were built with the rod eyes in question were identified. In April, Altec consulted field data and the supplier regarding the potential requirement for in field inspection for cracks. In May, the decision was made to require field inspection of these units. Altec has received only the single, initial report of the cracked rod eye. No injuries or accidents have been reported relating to this issue.**

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.

NA

#### **V. Identify the Remedy**

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

**Altec will issue a recall (CSN 545) for all the affected digger derricks. CSN directs the customer to inspect the hydraulic cylinder rod eye casting for cracks. Any cylinders found with cracks will be replaced. Altec will also reimburse the customer for the labor to inspect and replace the cylinder.**

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

**Any cylinders found with cracks in the rod eye casting will be replaced.**

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

N/A

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 supplier of the lift cylinder rod eye casting has enhanced their quality inspection process by adding Magnaflux Particle Inspection immediately following quench and temper in the heat treat process to more consistently identify possible defects.**

## **VI. Identify the Recall Schedule**

10. 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.

**Submitted with this report is a draft of Altec's CSN 545. Once CSN 545 has been approved and returned, Altec will immediately mail it to the customers affected. There are no dealers/retailers affected.**