

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reporting**Defect Report**

Report Date: December 16, 2011

1. Vehicles affected are manufactured by:

Cottrell, Inc.
2125 Candler Road
Gainesville, GA 30507

The component part at issue, TL Axles, were manufactured by:

ArvinMeritor, Inc.
2135 W. Maple Road
Troy, MI 48084

2. The following vehicles are being recalled:

Cottrell auto-transport trailers containing TL trailer axles manufactured and supplied by ArvinMeritor to Cottrell from April 2005 through October 2010, as previously identified by ArvinMeritor and supplied to NHTSA. See also Cottrell's January 19, 2011 letter to NHTSA regarding same, a copy of which is attached. In addition, see attached VIN listing of Cottrell trailers at issue in this Recall.

3. The total number of vehicles subject to recall:

1,767 at present.

4. The approximate percentage of vehicles from #3 above estimated to actually be affected:

100%.

5. Description of the defect:

As described by the component manufacturer, ArvinMeritor, a defect exists in certain FAG brand bearing units supplied by Schaeffler Group USA, Inc. and assembled into ArvinMeritor TL Series trailer axles. The FAG brand unitized bearing system has exhibited low durability life in certain vehicle applications. Prolonged use of the system in these applications can result in degradation of the bearing grease, thereby potentially resulting in a bearing failure and subsequent wheel-end fire.

Make: Cottrell
Model: All Models of Cottrell Trailers
Model Years: 2006-2011

6. The following data is the basis for the determination to recall these vehicles:

- a. 01/11/2011- Notification Letter from ArvinMeritor.
- b. 01/19/2011- Sent Letter to NHTSA (copy attached) relating to ArvinMeritor's 1/11/11 Notification Letter.
- c. 01/19/2011 through Present – Cottrell provided customer notification/contact information to ArvinMeritor, including updates as determined, so as to allow ArvinMeritor to notify Cottrell customers at issue per agreement, and Cottrell also worked with ArvinMeritor to effectuate repairs and replacements pursuant to ArvinMeritor instructions.
- d. 12/12/2011 – Received Explanation/Request from NHTSA that Cottrell file a 573 Defect Report separate from that of ArvinMeritor, even though the component at issue is an ArvinMeritor product, and ArvinMeritor is handling the recall/customer notifications etc.
- e. 12/16/2011 Submitted 573 Defect Notice as Requested by NHTSA.

7. The remedy:

As described by the component manufacturer, ArvinMeritor, owners of trailers originally equipped with suspect axles have been notified by ArvinMeritor (with a copy of said notification on Cottrell's website as well) to bring the trailer to an appropriate service facility for hub replacement. The original TL type hub will be replaced with a conventional design hub as the remedy.

8. Notification:

As per agreement, and as set forth herein, Cottrell supplied ArvinMeritor with the contact information needed to notify all Cottrell customers whose products have been identified as being subject to this Recall, and ArvinMeritor is handling the customer notifications. Cottrell continues to work with ArvinMeritor with regard to said notifications/contact information, as well as with regard to the repairs/replacements related to this Recall.

9. Cottrell will use the identification number assigned by NHTSA for this recall, to be the same as or cross-referenced with NHTSA/ArvinMeritor Recall Nos. 10E-057 (and 11E-015?).

10. Questions regarding this recall should be directed to:

- a. ArvinMeritor, as identified in NHTSA records:

Jeremy Tertzakian
ArvinMeritor, Inc.
2135 W. Maple Road
Troy, MI 48084
(248) 273-4641

b. If to Cottrell, then to:

Melanie Stone
Cottrell, Inc.
2125 Candler Road
Gainesville, GA 30507
(678) 677-8285

Or, if not available, then to:

Jeff Martin
Cottrell, Inc.
2125 Candler Road
Gainesville, GA 30507
(678) 677-8235

Report Submitted by:


Melanie Stone, Cottrell, Inc.

Attachments (2):

Cottrell January 19, 2011 Letter to NHTSA regarding ArvinMeritor Recall 10E-057
VIN Listing of Cottrell trailers at issue in this Recall