



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

May 17, 2012

MR. BRUCE A. MCCONNELL  
CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER  
FEATHERLITE, INC.  
P.O. BOX 320  
CRESCO, IA 52136-0320

NVS-215et  
12V-201

Subject: AXLE ASSEMBLIES/FAG BRAND BEARING SYSTEM/WHEEL END

Dear MR. MCCONNELL:

This letter serves to acknowledge Featherlite, Inc.'s (Featherlite) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

FEATHERLITE/1075/2006-2011  
FEATHERLITE/1076/2009-2011  
FEATHERLITE/4940/2007  
FEATHERLITE/4941/2007  
FEATHERLITE/4941/2010  
FEATHERLITE/8191/2008  
FEATHERLITE/8260/2008  
FEATHERLITE/8261/2008-2009  
FEATHERLITE/8270/2008-2009  
FEATHERLITE/8270/2012  
FEATHERLITE/8581/2009

**Mfg's Report Date:** May 1, 2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-201

**Components:** POWER TRAIN: AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 153

**Summary:**

FEATHERLITE IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2006-2012 TRAILERS EQUIPPED WITH A MERITOR AXLE. THE BEARING SYSTEM HAS EXHIBITED LOW DURABILITY LIFE IN CERTAIN VEHICLE APPLICATIONS.

**Consequence:**

PROLONGED USE OF THE SYSTEM IN THESE APPLICATIONS CAN RESULT IN THE DEGRADATION OF THE BEARING GREASE, THEREBY POTENTIALLY RESULTING IN A BEARING FAILURE AND SUBSEQUENT WHEEL END FIRE.

**Remedy:**

FEATHERLITE IS WORKING WITH THE MERITOR TO IDENTIFY AND REPAIR THE VEHICLES THAT CONTAIN THE SUBJECT AXLES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MAY 2012. THIS RECALL CAMPAIGN SUPERSEDES PREVIOUS RECALL CAMPAIGN 11V-396. TRAILERS THAT WERE REPAIRED UNDER THE PREVIOUS CAMPAIGN WILL ALSO NEED TO BE REPAIRED UNDER THIS CAMPAIGN. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FEATHERLITE AT 1-563-547-6000.

**Notes:**

OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received your proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

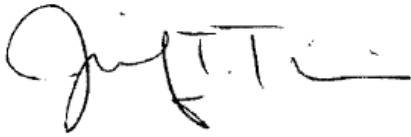
Please provide the following additional information:

Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, by email at [Edison.Thompson@dot.gov](mailto:Edison.Thompson@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement