



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

June 28, 2012

MR. TOM HALEY  
PRODUCT SAFETY ENGINEERING MGR.  
VERMEER MANUFACTURING COMPANY  
1210 VERMEER ROAD EAST  
PELLA, IA 50219

NVS-215et  
12V-291

**SUBJECT: AXLE REPLACEMENT**

**DEAR MR. HALEY:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Vermeer Manufacturing Company (Vermeer) 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:**  
VERMEER/R9X12T/2010-2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-291

**Mfr's Report Date:** June 22, 2012

**Components:** STRUCTURE: FRAME AND MEMBERS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 14

**Summary:**

VERMEER IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2010-2012 VERMEER R9X12T TRAILERS BECAUSE OF AN INADEQUATE CLEARANCE BETWEEN THE SLACK ADJUSTER ARM AND THE TRAILER FRAME. AS SUCH, THE AXLE COULD CONTACT THE ARM, BENDING IT. OVERTIME, ONE OR MORE OF THE BRAKES COULD LOSE ITS BRAKING CAPACITY DUE TO THE BENT SLACK ADJUSTER ARM.

**Consequence:**

REDUCED BRAKING CAPACITY CAN LEAD TO INCREASED STOPPING DISTANCES AND/OR CRASH.

**Remedy:**

VERMEER WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND WILL REPLACE THE AXLE, FREE OF CHARGE. VERMEER HAS NOT PROVIDED A NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT VERMEER AT 641-628-3141.

**Notes:**

VERMEER'S RECALL NUMBER IS IK00-1718. CUSTOMERS MAY 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).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

It is expected owners will be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. 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 1-202-366-9525, or 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 toward a 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 a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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