



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 6, 2012

Mr. Jeff Martin
Vice President of Sales
COTTRELL, INC.
2125 Candler Road
Gainesville, GA 30507

NVS-215KS
12V-370

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

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter serves to acknowledge COTTRELL, INC.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) 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:
COTTRELL/TRAILER/2006-2011

Mfr's Report Date: July 30, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-370

Components:
SUSPENSION:REAR:AXLE:NON-POWERED AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,767

Problem Description:

Cottrell is recalling certain model year 2006-2011 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:

Cottrell 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 August 2012. This recall campaign supersedes previous recall campaign 11V-594. Trailers that were repaired under the previous campaign will also need to be repaired under this campaign. Owners may contact Meritor OnTrac Performance Plus Call Center at 1-866-668-7221, option 5.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

We have received Cottrell's 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 be reminded of the following requirements:

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 your report, we understand that Meritor will be conducting this safety recall. However, since Cottrell is responsible for the defect/noncompliance in accordance with 49 CFR §573.5, please be advised that if Meritor's safety recall campaign is not successful, the agency may require Cottrell to conduct a follow-up notification.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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