



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

November 5, 2012

Mr. Gary Panico  
Express Trailers  
5570 Ulmeton Road  
Clearwater, FL 34620

NVS-215KS  
12V-512

**Subject:** Wheel Separation

Dear Mr. Panico:

This letter serves to acknowledge Express Trailers'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:**  
EXPRESS/CARGO/2011-2012

**Mfr's Report Date:** October 23, 2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-512

**Components:**  
WHEELS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 10

**Problem Description:**

Express Trailers is recalling certain model year 2011-2012 Express Cargo trailers equipped with Carlisle Tire and Wheel brand aluminum wheels installed as original equipment. These wheels were manufactured with machine dimensions for the application of a center cap and the application of steel lug inserts that were not controlled to the required specifications. As a result, the wheel may not be tightened to the proper torque during the mounting process.

**Consequence:**

If the wheels are not tightened to the proper torque, the wheels could loosen, leading to wheel separation, possibly resulting in a vehicle crash. A detached wheel also becomes a road hazard.

**Remedy:**

All of the affected owners were notified in October 2012. Owners may contact Express Trailers at 1-727-572-4265 for more information.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

It is our understanding that notification to owners began during October 2012, prior to our review of the owner notification letter. Should it become necessary for Express Trailers to do a renotification, the follow-up notification must be submitted to this office for review and it must comply with the requirements of Part 577.5, "Notification pursuant to a manufacturer's decision" and Part 577.10, "Follow-up notification."

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 Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at [kelly.schuler@dot.gov](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto: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 the first name being the most prominent.

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