



12V-046
(2 Pages)

Recall A-1201: ATR-6 Traction Relay Valve

07 February 2012

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Report Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6
Autocar, LLC Recall No. A-1201

The following information is in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a defect relating to motor vehicle safety.

573.6(c)(1): The manufacturer's name

Autocar, LLC ("Autocar").

573.6(c)(2): Identification of the vehicles including a description of the manufacturer's basis for its determination of the recall population

Bendix has identified a defect in its ATR-6 traction relay valves affecting 2011 and 2012 model-year ACX model heavy-duty class 8 vehicles built by Autocar between 22 December 2010 and 05 December 2011, with serial numbers in the range 212340 through 213812. The defect occurs in the ATR-6 traction relay valves of the affected vehicles. Autocar based its determination of the vehicle range on Bendix' reported time line of production of the affected valves commencing 02 December 2010 through 18 January 2012.

573.6(c)(3): The total number of vehicles or items of equipment potentially containing the defect

269 vehicles are potentially affected.

573.6(c)(4): The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance

100% of the 269 vehicles are affected.

573.6(c)(5): A description of the defect or noncompliance, including both a brief summary and a detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of the nature and physical location (if applicable) of the defect or noncompliance

Bendix has determined that in extremely cold conditions, these Bendix relay valves may potentially develop internal leakage. Internal leakage can lead to air pressure being delivered to affected primary or secondary brake causing continuous brake application. Unexpected continuous brake application can cause the brakes to overheat and lead to a fire. Unexpected continuous brake application can cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash. Also, the brakes may be applied without illuminating the brake lights, failing to give proper warning to other drivers.

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573.6(c)(6) and (7): A chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety

- 26 JAN 2012 Autocar received an informal notification of the issue from Bendix.
- 26 JAN 2012 - Autocar immediately contained the affected ATR-6 valves in Autocar's plant.
01 FEB 2012
- 01 FEB 2012 Autocar received NHTSA's acknowledgment and recall number from Bendix. Autocar decided to initiate a recall.

573.6(c)(8)(i): A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance
Autocar will voluntarily initiate an owner notification and recall of all affected vehicles. Autocar will distribute to owners of affected vehicles an Owner Notification Letter which will describe the defect and provide instructions for scheduling repair of the vehicle, at no cost to the vehicle's owner.

573.6(c)(8)(ii): The estimated date(s) on which it will begin sending notifications to owners, and to dealers and distributors

- 01 FEB 2012 Autocar decided to initiate a recall.
- 07 FEB 2012 573.6 letter to be sent to NHTSA.
- 19 FEB 2012 Owner notification letter to be sent to NHTSA for approval.
- 29 FEB 2012 Repair bulletin to be distributed by Bendix and Autocar.
- 01 MAR 2012 Owner notification letter and recall response card to be sent to vehicle owners.

573.6(c)(9):
Not Applicable.

573.6(c)(11): The manufacturer's campaign number, if not identical to the identification number assigned by NHTSA

Autocar's campaign number assigned to this recall is A-1201.

Very truly yours,

Ms. Kanupriya Arora
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