

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹

On December 20th, 2011, Interstate Trailers Inc. [MFR] decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: 4/2/2012

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 11E-057

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Interstate Trailers Inc.

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Charles B. Schroder, Plant Manager

Telephone Number: 817-453-5402 Fax No.: 817-453-2672

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Charles B. Schroder
Plant Manager

Signed:



¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Jennifer Timian at (202) 366-0209, by FAX at (202) 366-7882, or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Interstate **Model Years Involved:** 2012 **Model(s):** 30DLE

Production Dates: Beginning: 10/26/2011 **Ending:** 10/26/2011

VIN Range: Beginning: 1JKDLE309CM **Ending:** 1JKDLE309CM

Vehicle Type: TRAILER **Bodystyle:** FLATBED

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

This trailer is the only unit built which utilized the Dexter E/H actuator part# K71-650-00 which is covered in the recall.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Vehicles equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Vehicles of all Vehicles manufactured during that time period.

5%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
30DLE	2012	1
Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:		<u>1</u>

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

The trailer was selected as it was the only unit manufactured by Interstate Trailers Inc. utilizing the recalled component supplied by Dexter Axle Company.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

Defect with the Dexter Axle Company electro hydraulic brake actuator installed on the trailer. The brake actuator is located in the tongue area of the trailer.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

According to the supplier of the brake actuator (Dexter Axle Company) there is a potential defect caused by improper heat treating of the part.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Premature wear which could render unit inoperable.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

Unknown.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Dexter Axle Company, P.O. Box 250 Elkhart, IN 46515

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Carlos Robles, Director of Quality.

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

Dexter Axle notified Interstate Trailers of the potential defect on 12/20/2011. How they made their determination of the potential defect is unknown to Interstate Trailers. There were no reports of accidents, incidences, injuries, or fatalities due to this potential defect. There was one warranty claim submitted by the owner of the trailer to Dexter Axle Company which was closed on 3/8/2012.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

After being informed of the potential defect with the trailer in question Interstate Trailers was able to identify the owner of the trailer through internal warranty registration documentation. The owner was contacted on 1/6/2012 and asked to verify that the serial number on the affected part. The owner was able to identify the serial number on the affected component as DTS11933 which places the component in the range of potentially defective units. At this point the owner was instructed to take the vehicle out of service and contact Dexter Axle Company for a replacement electric hydraulic brake unit. As of 3/8/2012 the owner has replaced the electric hydraulic brake unit with a new part supplied by Dexter Axle Company. Any claim or reimbursement for the cost of the component or labor to install it was handled between Dexter Axle Company and the owner per the instructions given to Interstate Trailers by Dexter Axle Company referenced in recall 11E-057.

9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Replace the potentially defective component with a replacement component which does not contain the defect.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Unknown.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

As there was only one vehicle constructed with the part in question and no plans to build any other vehicles with the component associated with the recall there was no change made to production. Any new trailers will be built with a new pump which does not contain the potential defect. This is the same remedy as the recall in the field.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

All parties involved have been notified.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

11. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov for review prior to mailing.*

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.