



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 1, 2013

Mr. Barry Mitchell
Director, Customer Service/Warranty
Great Dane Trailers
602 E. Lathrop Avenue
Savannah, GA 31402

NVS-215KS
13V-018

Subject: Axle Retaining Clips may Disengage

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

This letter serves to acknowledge Great Dane 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:

GREAT DANE/DRY FREIGHT SEMI-TRAILER/2013

Mfr's Report Date: January 18, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-018

Components:

SUSPENSION: MULTIPLE AXLE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 654

Problem Description:

Great Dane Trailers is recalling certain model year 2013 Dry Freight Semi-Trailers. The axle nut retaining clips may not have been properly seated. Disengagement of the axle nut retaining clips could lead to excessive wheel end play and/or wheel separation.

Consequence:

A wheel separation may result in a loss of control, increasing the risk of a crash. Additionally, a separated wheel may become a significant road hazard.

Remedy:

Great Dane will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the axle nut retaining clips and correct their installation as necessary, free of charge. The manufacturer has not provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Great Dane customer service at 1-877-369-3493.

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 Great Dane'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:

As required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that 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.

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 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