

**MERITOR**

February 27, 2013

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590
Attention: Associate Administrator of Enforcement

Email: RDM.ODI@DOT.gov

Re: Defect Information Report relating to J24 series air chambers shipped to Meritor between November 23, 2010 and October 22, 2012, by supplier MGM Brakes. The air chambers were manufactured by MGM Brakes between November 23, 2010 and March 31, 2012.

Meritor File: C-13AA

NHTSA File: Not Assigned

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Meritor, Inc. submits this Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR 573.6. the information is presented to correspond to the sub-paragraphs of section 573.6(c).

Information Requested under §573.65(c)(1) Manufacturer Submitting Report

Meritor, Inc.
2135 West Maple Road
Troy, Michigan 48084-7186

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(2) Identification of Affected Product

This report covers the following Meritor axle models which were built with the suspect MGM J24 series air chambers:

E2-3276X24		E8-3276X24
E3-3276X24		A71-3276P16
E4-3276X24		A79-3276X16
E5-3276X24		A72-3276P24
E7-3276X24		B98-3276D30



Information Requested under §573.6(c)(3) Potential Affected Vehicle Population

Meritor estimates approximately 3003 air chambers installed on the forgoing Meritor axle models require inspection in North America to locate the 2100 suspect air chambers supplied by MGM Brakes.

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(4) Percentage of Affected Vehicles

MGM has informed Meritor that it calculated the failure rate on the affected population to be approximately 1% of the suspect air chambers.

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(5) Description of Defect or Noncompliance

MGM has informed Meritor that it implemented a design change which, according to field reports, allows for intermittent leakage of air past the seal. If insufficient air pressure exists, the spring becomes “uncaged” and applies force to the brake. Depending on the amount of leakage, the brake can drag while the vehicle is in service or prevent the wheel from rotating.

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(6) Chronology of Principal Events Leading to Determination of a Safety Defect

5/30/12	Meritor was contacted by Ferrara fire apparatus concerning MGM MJB 2424ET chambers experiencing intermittent leakage of air out of chamber vents.
9/19/12	Navistar advised NHTSA that it is recalling certain MGM J24 series air chambers
9/25/12	Meritor received reports of chamber failures resulting in dragging brakes on 5 Orion buses.
10/19/12	MGM Brakes sent a letter to inform Meritor of a potential spring side leak issue with the Type 24 MGM J-series piston parking brake actuator. MGM stated that under certain circumstances, the issue may lead to a dragging or partially dragging brake and ultimately a hot wheel report on the vehicle.
10/23/12	New Flyer Industries advised NHTSA that it is recalling certain MGM J24 series air chambers.
1/24/13	Daimler Buses North America advised NHTSA that it is recalling certain MGM J24 series air chambers installed on axles it received from Meritor.

Information Requested under §573.6(c)(7) Information Used in Determination of a Noncompliance

There is no impact of this issue towards non-compliance with a motor vehicle standard.



Information Requested under §573.6(c)(8) Description of Remedy

Meritor will be contacting customers by way of a Defect Information Notice with the recommendation that they contact Meritor at their earliest convenience to schedule an inspection and, where appropriate, have the procedures described in Meritor Technical Publication No. TP-1338 (copy attached) performed on their vehicles.

Meritor is in process of developing the Notice and accompanying service instructions and will submit that information to NHTSA as soon as available. The following is an approximate schedule for the program:

3/5/13 Complete revised notification to affected customers
3/19/13 Distribute notification to affected customers

In addition, Meritor has determined that, to the extent any of the potentially affected axles were remedied prior to this notification, it was done at no expense to the vehicle owners and occurred through Meritor's warranty system. Therefore, Meritor does not believe that a general pre-notification reimbursement remedy program is required.

We trust that the information provided in this document is fully responsive to the requirements of 49 CFR §573.5. All additions or modifications to any of the information given will be reported promptly to NHTSA. Any questions with respect to the information provided should be directed to the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meritor
Christine Wright
Project Manager
Product Safety and Compliance

Attached:

Appendix A – List of Affected Customers and Quantities
TP-1338



APPENDIX A
LIST OF AFFECTED CUSTOMERS AND QUANTITIES

OEM	Quantity
Autocar LLC	2148
Diamlerchrysler Commercial Buses North America Inc	402
Emergency One Inc.	32
Ferrara Fire Apparatus	202
Hendrickson Mobile Equipment	16
Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp	70
Meritor	6
Prevost Car Inc.	2
Seagraves Apparatus Division	12

Aftermarket	Quantity
All Systems Brake Services	1
Amazing American Tours, Inc.	1
Autocar, LLC	1
Ballard Mark Sales and Service	1
CFB Kingston	2
CUSA FL LLC	1
Ferrara Fire Apparatus	3
Fleetpride	1
Frank Martz Coach Co.	1
Fun Tours C/P DC Trails	1
Greenwood Emergency Vehicles	1
MCI	3
MCI Service Parts	69
Meritor Canada	2
Motor Parts Co.	1
National Trails	1
Naylor Automotive Engineering	2
Neals Truck Parts	2
Prevost Car	1
Ransome International LLC	1
Rolling V Bus Co.	1
Rush Truck Center, Phoenix	3
Sault Ste Marie Tribe of	1
TEC of California, Inc.	2
Total Truck	1
Uni-Select	6
Uni-Select/Fleet Parts	2
Wade Tours	1