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By Recall Management Division at 8:38 am, Jun 21, 2013

13V-258
(4 pages)



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Via Email: RMD.ODI@dot.gov

To: Defects and Recall Information Analysis Division
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 7th Street, SW
Washington DC 20590

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

Report Date: June 20, 2013

On or about June 14, 2013, Vermeer Manufacturing Company, d/b/a Vermeer Corporation, determined that there is a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety with respect to certain 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 Reports.

Fabricating Manufacturer:

Vermeer Manufacturing Company, d/b/a Vermeer Corporation
1210 Vermeer Road East
Pella, IA 50219

Telephone: 641-628-3141 **Fax:** 641-621-7739

Contact Name and Title: Lois Slings
Product Liability Risk Manager

Name and Title of Person Who Prepared Report: Matthew Stringer
Product Safety Engineer

Signed: Matthew Stringer **Date:** June 20, 2013

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

Manufacturer's Identification Code: IK00-1843

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Vehicle Identification:

Make:	Vermeer	Model Years Involved:	2012 - 2013	
Model(s):	R9X12T			
Production Dates:	Beginning:	5/25/2012	Ending:	5/3/2013
VIN Range:	Beginning:	1VRB533B9C1000117	Ending:	1VRB533BXD1000130
Vehicle Type:	Trailer – Triple axle drilling fluid reclaimer			

Description which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall: The VIN Range includes 14 units. All units except serial number 118 is included 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 Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

100%

II. Identify the Recall Population

Total Number of Vehicles Recalled Potentially containing the defect or noncompliance:

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
R9X12T	2012	1
R9X12T	2013	12

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:

13

Approximate percentage of Total Number of Vehicles Estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

93%

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 specified units were identified from manufacturing and design records maintained by Vermeer Manufacturing Company as all having the same air-brake booster valve plumbing design.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

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.

- The air-brake booster valve for the air-brake systems on the R9X12T was plumbed incorrectly. This plumbing error will result in air-brake application times which may exceed 0.6 seconds when tested according to the National Highway traffic Safety Administration, DOT 49 CFR Ch. V (10-1-99 Edition) §571.121, S5.3.3 and S5.3.4.

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

- The air-brake booster valve was plumbed incorrectly.

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

- The application time may exceed 0.6 seconds. The maximum air brake application time measured was 0.612 seconds (0.012 seconds longer than required by DOT 49 CFR Ch. V (10-1-99 Edition) §571.121, S5.3.3 and S5.3.4.)

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

(b) Extended trailer stopping distances.

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

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

Not Applicable.

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

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

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.

- 12 JUNE 2013 An engineer from Vermeer noticed that the machines being assembled had the air brake booster valve plumbed incorrectly.
- 13 JUNE 2013 Vermeer initiated testing to determine whether the incorrect plumbing would have an effect on brake application and release times.
- 14 JUNE 2013 Testing was completed, and it was determined that the incorrect plumbing would result in air-brake application times that exceeded 0.6 seconds.

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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.

Not applicable.

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

The air brake booster valve will need to be re-plumbed.

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

Field repair kit is currently under development.

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.

Not applicable.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

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.

15 JULY 2013: Complete development of field inspection and modification kit, including fabrication of replacement parts and installation instructions.

22 JULY 2013: Factory will publish Service Bulletin and Kit Instructions to dealers introducing field modification kit via company-to-dealer website.

22 JULY 2013: Factory will provide listing of affected units in their area to dealers via fax and/or e-mail

29 JULY 2013: Factory will notify owners of mandatory field modifications via certified/registered US mail.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

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) for review prior to mailing.*