



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 22, 2014

Mr. Joshua Chard
Director, Corporate and Product Safety
Altec Industries Inc.
210 Inverness Center Drive
Birmingham, AL 35242

NVS-215KS
14V-503

Subject: Battery Equalizers-Possible Fire

Dear Mr. Chard:

This letter serves to acknowledge Altec Industries Inc.'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:

ALTEC/AERIAL DEVICE/2000-2013
ALTEC/DIGGER DERRICK/2000-2013

Mfr's Report Date: August 15, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-503

Components:

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:BATTERY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 51

Problem Description:

Altec Industries, Inc. (Altec) is recalling certain model year 2000-2013 Aerial Device and Digger Derrick trucks, equipped with Sure Power Battery Equalizers containing a particular epoxy sealing, aka 'potting', compound. The specific potting compound used in the subject products for insulation was found to be capable of conducting electricity after being exposed to heat.

Consequence:

Once electrically conductive, the material is capable of melting and burning, increasing the risk of a fire.

Remedy:

Altec will notify owners, and dealers will replace any affected battery equalizer, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in September 2014. Owners may contact Altec customer service at 1-877-462-5832. Altec's number for this recall is CSN 603.

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.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

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. Include any explanation as to why Altec's defect determination was made in January 2014 yet a defect report was not filed until August 2014.

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 the first name being the most prominent.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement