



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 17, 2014

Mr. Mark Riggs
Director of Technical Service
Heil Company
1125 Congress Parkway N
Athens, TN 37303

NVS-215KS
14V-761

Subject: Secondary Coupling System On Pull Trailer may Fail

Dear Mr. Riggs:

This letter serves to acknowledge Heil Company'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:

HEIL/PETROLEUM PULL TRAILER/2000-2014

Mfr's Report Date: November 28, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-761

Components:

TRAILER HITCHES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 129

Problem Description:

Heil Company (Heil) is recalling certain model year 2000-2014 Petroleum Pull Trailers manufactured August 29, 2000, to September 12, 2014. In the affected trailers, the cables of the secondary coupling system may fail to keep the trailer connected to the tow vehicle if the pintle hitch connection should fail.

Consequence:

A failure of the cables of the secondary coupling system after the pintle hitch have become disconnected, could result in the trailer detaching from the tow vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Heil will notify owners, and dealers will install thicker secondary coupling cables, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Heil customer service at 1-800-400-6913.

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. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

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 large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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