



**CORNELIUS  
MANUFACTURING  
INC.**

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14V-011  
(8 pages)

5344 E. 1250 N • Elnora, Indiana 47529  
Phone: (812) 636-4319 • Fax: (812) 636-4147

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January 14, 2014

NHTSA-NVS-215  
Room: W46-421  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Attention: Kelly Schuler, Safety Recall Specialist

Dear Ms. Schuler:

Enclosed is a copy of my original fax and pages 24 through 29 that were included with that fax this morning. If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

  
Gary Frette

# Fax

## CORNELIUS MANUFACTURING INC.

5344 E. 1250 N.  
ELNORA, INDIANA 47529 U.S.A.  
TELEPHONE: (812) 636-4319  
FAX: (812) 636-4147

**TO: National Highway Safety Administration**

**Fax:** 202-366-7882

**Pages:** 7 with cover

**Phone:**

**Date:** January 14, 2014

**Re:** Part 573 Materials Attached

**CC:**

**X Urgent**     **For Review**     **Please Comment**     **Please Reply**

**IF ANY PART OF THE TRANSMISSION IS NOT CLEAR OR IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE THE NUMBER OF PAGES INDICATED, PLEASE CALL THE ABOVE NUMBER.**

**COMMENTS:**

Dear Sir/Madame:

I have attached Part 573 Defect and NonCompliance Report included in the Safety Recall Compendium. The trailer model involved is a Deckover Flat trailer with a 10' hydraulic dovetail.

Please acknowledge your receipt of these documents.

I would also like to know the procedure to "Petition for Exemption from Recall Notice and Remedy Requirements" as this is not a public safety issue in our opinion.

Sincerely,



Gary Frette  
garyf@cornprotrailers.com

9:45 AM

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

Date: \_\_\_\_ January 10, 2014 \_\_\_\_

This report serves as Cornelius Manufacturing Inc.'s notification to the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that a "defect related to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Deckover Flat trailers with 10' Hydraulic Dovetail. Cornelius decided that this "defect" existed in these vehicles on January 5, 2014.

I. Manufacturer, Designated Agent, and Other Chain of Distribution Information

Manufacturer's corporate name: Cornelius Manufacturing, Inc.

Vehicle brand or trademark name owner(s) : Corn Pro

Designated Agent (imported vehicles):

NA

If this notification concerns a defective or noncompliant component that the above identified manufacturer did not manufacture, identify that component and provide the name, address, and phone number of the manufacturer of the component (if this manufacturer is unknown, provide this information as to the supplier of the component):

NA

Name, address, email, and phone and fax numbers for the person(s) to whom inquiries about this report should be directed:

Cornelius Manufacturing, Inc. 5344 E 1250 N Elnora, IN 47529

Attention: Gary Frette Phone: 812-636-4319 Fax: 812-636-4147  
garyf@cornprotrailers.com

Manufacturer's assigned campaign number (where applicable):

II. Identification of the Recall Population and Its Size

Complete the tables below for each group of vehicles subject to this notification. Additional tables may be necessary where there are more than three groups subject to a notification.

Make: Corn Pro	
Model: Deckover Flat with 10' Hydraulic Dovetail	
Model Year(s): 2012, 2013, 2014	
Inclusive dates of manufacture (month and year): 2/2012 thru 11/2013	
Body Style/Type (for non-passenger cars): Deckover Flat Bed Trailers with 10' Hydraulic Dovetail	
Other information necessary to describe these vehicles (e.g., VIN range, GVWR or class for trucks, displacement for motorcycles, and number of passengers for buses): VIN # ending in 057293 thru VIN# 061721	
Total number of these vehicles: 64	

Make:	
Model:	
Model Year(s):	
Inclusive dates of manufacture (month and year):	

Body Style/Type (for non-passenger cars):	
Other information necessary to describe these vehicles (e.g., VIN range, GVWR or class for trucks, displacement for motorcycles, and number of passengers for buses):	
Total number of these vehicles:	

Make:	
Model:	
Model Year(s):	
Inclusive dates of manufacture (month and year):	
Body Style/Type (for non-passenger cars):	
Other information necessary to describe these vehicles (e.g., VIN range, GVWR or class for trucks, displacement for motorcycles, and number of passengers for buses):	
Total number of these vehicles:	

Provide the following information as to all the groups of vehicles:

Grand total number of vehicles: \_\_\_\_\_ 64 \_\_\_\_\_

The percentage of the recall population you estimate actually contain the defect or noncompliance:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 5% \_\_\_\_\_

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined (e.g., on what basis the recalled models were selected and how the inclusive dates of manufacture were determined):

This was a new model trailer in 2012 and includes all Corn Pro trailers with a 10' hydraulic dovetail.

Describe how the recall population is different from any similar vehicles not subject to this notification:

Re-call population is the only model we manufacture with this style of Hydraulic dovetail.

### III. Description of the Defect or Noncompliance and Chronology of Events

Describe the defect or noncompliance, including a summary and detailed description of the nature and physical location (if appropriate) of the defect or noncompliance. Graphic aids should be provided where necessary.

Two 5" channels were welded together to form a box that was used on either side of the hinge bushings to allow the tail to pivot. If inadequate welding was done when fabricating this channel box, a failure could happen.

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

Inadequate or cold weld on 5" channel box

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

If 5" channel box separates it could allow 10' dovetail to break loose from the hinge bushings leaving only the hydraulic cylinders to keep the tail from separating from the main part of the trailer.

Identify any warning(s) that may precede the defect or noncompliance condition.

Cracked welds or too small welds installed

*For defects*, provide a dated, chronological summary of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination that the defect is related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information such as numbers of crashes, injuries and fatalities.

There was one event on November 8, 2013 that resulted in the tail separating from the main deck. The tail continued to be fastened to the main deck with its lower connection and the attached load stayed intact and unhurt on the tail. That event resulted in one warranty claim to date and we have paid the owner of the trailer for all costs incurred including loose of use. We feel this was an isolated instance based on past manufacturing performance.

*For noncompliances*, identify the test results and other information considered in determining the existence of the noncompliance, and provide the date of each test and observation indicative of that noncompliance.

NA

IV. The Remedy Program and Its Schedule

Describe the program for remedying the defect or noncompliance, including the plan for reimbursing those owners and purchasers who may have incurred costs to remedy the defect or noncompliance before receiving the manufacturer's notification concerning that defect or noncompliance. Also include, where applicable, details with dates concerning any production remedy that was conducted or will be conducted.

Inspect welds on 5" boxed channels and hinge bushings. Re-weld as needed. We will also add 2 flat plates on the outside of the main frame I-beam from the 5" box channel to the nearest crossmember in front and behind the hinge bushings on each side of the trailer. We will re-finish all affected areas. Any prior, unreported problems, will be reimbursed for reasonable repair costs  
On 11/20/2013 the design was changed from a 5" channel box to a 3" x 5" tube to eliminate the subject weld question and we added the plate from the tube to the first crossmember as explained above.

Provide the estimated date(s) on which owner and purchaser notifications will be issued and the estimated date(s) for completion of those notifications.

Notifications will be done by February 10, 2014

Provide the estimated date(s) on which dealer and distributor notifications will be issued and the estimated date(s) for completion of those notifications.

Notifications will be done by February 10, 2014

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly. 1. Boxed channel is replaced with tubing to eliminate welding

2. Weld pattern is re-stated and reviewed on each production unit.
3. Plates are added on bottom side to tie tubing to main frame of trailer and of 10' dovetail
4. Decal indicating maximum weight to be transported on dovetail will be added on each side