

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****14V-616****Manufacturer Name :** Altec Industries Inc.**Submission Date :** SEP 26,2014**NHTSA Recall No. :** 14V-616**Manufacturer Recall No. :** CSN 605**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Altec Industries Inc.

Address : 210 Inverness Center Drive

Birmingham AL 35242

Company phone : 205-991-7733

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 344

Estimated percentage with defect : 100

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2009-2012 Novae ST81181TPL2-B-140

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Equipment Trailer

Production Dates : AUG 31, 2009 - SEP 27, 2012

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The trailer tongue could fail.

Description of the Safety Risk : Failure of the trailer tongue can result in injury and or property damage.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Cracks can develop in the trailer tongue tube that may be identified during inspection.

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : Novae Corporation

Address : One Novae Parkway

Markle IN 46770

Country : US

**Chronology :**

In July 2012, Altec notified Novae Corporation about trailer tongues cracks. Novae investigated the issue and notified us in May 2013 that the trailer tongue cracks were related to a hole cut in the trailer tongue for wiring. This hole was placed in a location that could ultimately compromise the strength of the tongue. Novae determined that there was a potential for the tongue tube to fail if the wiring hole was placed with 4 inches of the front of the bed of the trailer. In July 2013, Altec issued a notice to affected customers advising them to inspect their trailers and to repair any cracks per the instructions provided by Novae. Following receipt of the initial repair kits from Novae, some of our customers and Altec service departments expressed concern over the complexity of the repair kit and confusing installation instructions provided by Novae. Novae modified the repair process and reinforcing kit based upon our input.

In June 2014, we received a report of a trailer tongue failure. There were no injuries or accidents during the event. As in earlier cases, the trailer was loaded within the allowable limits set by the manufacturer. Upon further review of the original failure mode previously identified by Novae, Altec has concluded that the location of the wiring hole was not related to the trailer tongue cracks. Altec has therefore determined that the original scope of units identified did not include all potentially affected units. In 2012 Novae changed from a 3/16 inch steel trailer tongue tube to a 1/4 inch steel tube. Altec believes that the scope of affected units now includes all trailers purchased from Novae from 2009 to 2012 with 3/16 inch steel trailer tongue tube. Novae does not agree and is not participating in an expansion of the field population. Altec has not received any reports of issues with the thicker steel tube.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : The manufacturer Novae Corporation, is not offering a remedy. Altec will issue a recall letter (CSN 605) to owners of all affected units sold by Altec, informing them to inspect their trailer for cracks, repair cracks found, and to add a reinforcing kit.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The tongues on trailers manufactured after 2012 are made with 1/4 inch steel tubing instead of 3/16 inch tubing.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The tongues on trailers manufactured after 2012 are made with 1/4 inch steel tubing instead of 3/16 inch tubing.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Customer notification is expected to begin the week of November 17, 2014

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 17, 2014 - NR

\* NR - Not Reported