

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**14V-660****Manufacturer Name :** Pierce Manufacturing**Submission Date :** OCT 21,2014**NHTSA Recall No. :** 14V-660**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 74B257**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Pierce Manufacturing

Address : 2600 American Drive

P.O. BOX 2017 Appleton WI 54912-2017

Company phone : 414-832-3000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 135

Estimated percentage with defect : 2

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2009-2013 Pierce Enforcer, Impel, Quantum, Velocity, Arrow XT

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Vehicles equipped with TAK-4 front independent suspensions, with lower control arms produced from production lots 096K and 219H.

Production Dates : NOV 11, 2009 - APR 23, 2013

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Pierce has determined that, for certain production lots, the lower control arms may have developed a crack when impacted during processing. Lower control arms produced within one cavity in the mold may additionally have become subject to material alteration as the result of process variation, increasing the lower control arm's sensitivity to the crack. When occurring in combination, the lower control arm could fatigue and fracture during a sudden, overload event.

Description of the Safety Risk : A sudden fracture of the lower control arm during vehicle travel could lead to separation of the wheel and the need for the fire truck to move to the side of the road or to cease travel.

Description of the Cause : Pierce has conducted extensive evaluation to determine the cause of the lower control arm fractures and why the fractures occurred only within a specific mold cavity of identified casting lots. Pierce's analysis has concluded that the fractures occur only when there is both an impact in the casting process allowing a crack to develop and an alteration of the material composition due to process variations which increases the material's sensitivity to the crack. When occurring in combination, the crack could potentially propagate when subjected to a sudden, overload event.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : Aarrowcast Inc.

Address : 2900 E. Richmond St.

Shawano WISCONSIN 54166

Country : United States

Chronology :

See attached document for chronology of events.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Pierce will notify the owners of the subject vehicles with the subject lots and provide instructions on how they can determine whether or not the lower control arms were produced from the subject cavity. For those requiring an inspection, Pierce will arrange for the vehicle to be inspected and, when necessary, for the lower control arms to be replaced free of charge.

There have been only three prior incidents of lower control arm fracture, each of which was replaced under warranty. Accordingly there is no need for a reimbursement campaign.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy components will be produced from a lot different than that subject to this recall. Pierce will inspect all lower control arm replacements to ensure that there is no crack induced during the casting process.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Pierce has instituted an enhanced inspection process to ensure that no cracks are induced during the manufacturing process and is working with the casting supplier to reduce the potential for process variation.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Pierce will notify owners of the recall immediately upon submission of the report and will provide instructions once they are approved by the agency.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 27, 2014 - NOV 07, 2014

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 27, 2014 - NOV 07, 2014

* NR - Not Reported