

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

Date: 10/24/2014

This report serves as Wabash National'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 trailers.

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

Manufacturer's corporate name: Wabash National

Vehicle brand or trademark name owner(s) (where applicable): Wabash National

Designated Agent (imported vehicles): n/a

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):

Suspension Supplier
SAF-HOLLAND, Inc.
1950 Industrial Boulevard
Muskegon, MI 49442

James G. Huyge, Director of Reliability & Risk Management, SAF-HOLLAND, Inc.
Telephone Number: (231) 777-4302
Fax Number: (231) 777-2515

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

Brad Benedetti, Director of Quality, Wabash National
Telephone Number: (765) 771-5473
Fax Number: (765) 771-5552
brad.benedetti@wabashnational.com

Manufacturer's assigned campaign number (where applicable): SAF-Holland 14E-024

SAF-HOLLAND warranty failure code is P022.

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: Wabash National
Model: Vans
Model Year(s): 2013
Inclusive dates of manufacture (month and year): 11/22/2013 and 12/09/2013
Body Style/Type (for non-passenger cars): Trailer
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): n/a
Total number of these vehicles: 4 (54 total. 50 imported by Canadian entities and 4 sold in US)

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

Grand total number of vehicles:

The recall population is 4 (54 total. 50 were imported by Canadian entities & 4 were sold in US.)

The percentage of the recall population you estimate actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100% _____

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):

SAF Holland supplied defective CBX 40 series suspensions produced between 10/08/2013 and 11/30/2013 containing defective pivot bolts that were sold to Wabash National and used in the manufacture of commercial heavy duty trailers for use in the United States and Canada. This recall covers 100% of Wabash National trailers using CBX 40 series suspensions containing the defective pivot bolt produced by SAF-HOLLAND between 10/08/2013 and 11/30/2013

Based upon information provided by SAF Holland, 216 pivot bolts (part number 93201070) were used in CBX 40 suspensions and incorporated into 54 Wabash National trailers.

Of the 54 trailers, 50 were imported by Canadian entities. The US recall population is 4 trailers.

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

They do not contain defective SAF-HOLLAND CBX series suspensions containing the defective pivot bolt produced by SAF-HOLLAND between 10/08/2013 and 11/30/2013

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.

SAF-HOLLAND, Inc. believes that this defect is an intergranular crack of unknown origin.

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

SAF-HOLLAND, Inc. continues to investigate the manufacturing processes used to make the pivot bolt.

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

The failure of a pivot bolt on one side of the axle/suspension assembly could result in the trailer becoming misaligned behind the tractor which will be immediately apparent to the driver. The failure of two sides of the axle/suspension assembly could result in the separation of the axle/suspension assembly from the trailer if both sides of the pivot connection fail.

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

The failure of a pivot bolt on one side of the axle/suspension assembly could result in the trailer becoming misaligned behind the tractor which will be immediately apparent to the driver.

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.

Wabash National received a registered letter from SAF-HOLLAND dated 07/16/2014, notifying us that they had initiated a safety recall (ID# 14E-024) of pivot bolts that had been incorporated into certain SAF-HOLLAND CBX series suspensions. Wabash National is not aware of any warranty claims, field or service reports, accidents, injuries, or fatalities due to this issue.

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.

n/a

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.

Field replacement of all affected pivot bolts in trailers will be required. Following notification by Wabash National, it is planned that SAF-HOLLAND will execute the remediation in the field based upon their previously submitted notices, bulletins, and other communications.

SAF-HOLLAND, Inc. validated 100% of pivot bolt inventory at the SAF-HOLLAND, Inc. facility.

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

Estimated dates are December 01, 2014 for issuance and December 08, 2014 for completion.

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

Estimated dates are November 24, 2014 for issuance and December 01, 2014 for completion.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Replaced pivot bolts will bear a white paint dot on the head of the bolt.

******* IMPORTANT REMINDERS *******

A DRAFT version of the letter that the manufacturer intends to mail to owners and purchasers notifying them of the defect and/or noncompliance must be submitted to NHTSA at least five Federal Government business days before those letters are issued. In addition, it is recommended that the draft version of the letter that the manufacturer intends to send to its dealers and distributors concerning the defect and/or noncompliance also be submitted for review. For prompt receipt and review, drafts may be submitted to the attention of the Recall Management Division (NVS-215) via facsimile on (202) 366-7882, or email to RMD.ODI@dot.gov.

A representative copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser, must be submitted to NHTSA no later

than five days after they are initially sent. This requirement applies both to the final version of the notification letter that is sent to owners and purchasers, as well as the final version that is sent to dealers and distributors. It also includes any follow-up notifications issued concerning a recall. The representative copies of the letters sent to owners and purchasers, and dealers and distributors, must be submitted via certified mail. It is strongly recommended, however, that additional representative copies be submitted via facsimile on (202) 366-7882, or email to RMD.ODI@dot.gov, so that the submission can be more promptly reviewed. All submissions should be conspicuously labeled with the appropriate NHTSA-assigned recall number.