



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 2, 2015

Ms. Susan Harmon
Product Safety & Comp Mgr
Charles Machine Works Inc
PO Box 66
Perry, OK 73077

NVS-215MR
15V-159

Subject: Possible Incorrect Wheel Bearings in Axle Assembly

Dear Ms. Harmon:

This letter serves to acknowledge Charles Machine Works Inc'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:

CHARLES MACHINE/DITCH WITCH T26/2002-2015

Mfr's Report Date: March 13, 2015

NHTSA Campaign Number: 15V-159

Components:

SUSPENSION:REAR:AXLE:NON-POWERED AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 169

Problem Description:

Charles Machine Works Inc. (Charles Machine) is recalling certain model year 2002-2015 Ditch Witch T26 trailers. The affected trailers may have been manufactured with axles that have incorrect wheel bearings. The incorrect wheel bearings may not be able to support the trailer's rated load and, as a result, the bearings may fail and the wheel may detach.

Consequence:

Bearing failure or wheel detachment would increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Charles Machine will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the wheel bearings and replace them, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in April 2015. Owners may contact Charles Machine customer service at 1-800-654-6481. Charles Machine's number for this recall is ID #0376152.

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.

We have received Charles Machine's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at 202-366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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