



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 5, 2016

Mr. Barry Mitchell
Director, Customer Service/Warranty
Great Dane Trailers
602 E. Lathrop Avenue
Savannah, GA 31402

NVS-215MR
15V-841

Subject: Caliper Bolts may be Loose

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

This letter serves to acknowledge Great Dane Trailers'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:

GREAT DANE/REEFER/2015-2016

Mfr's Report Date: December 11, 2015

NHTSA Campaign Number: 15V-841

Components:

SERVICE BRAKES, AIR:DISC:CALIPER

Potential Number of Units Affected: 63

Problem Description:

Great Dane Trailers (Great Dane) is recalling certain model year 2015-2016 Reefer semi trailers manufactured December 19, 2013, to June 28, 2015, and equipped with certain Meritor EX225L2, EX225L+, or Bendix ADB22X axles. The affected axle assemblies have caliper bolts that may not have been properly tightened, allowing the caliper mounting bolts to back out and the caliper to detach from the axle flange.

Consequence:

If the caliper detaches from the axle flange, braking performance would be reduced, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Great Dane will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the caliper bolts, tightening them as necessary, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Great Dane customer service at 1-912-232-4471, or Meritor customer service at 1-866-668-7221.

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.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

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 required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

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