

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**15V-253****Manufacturer Name :** Mastercraft Boat Company Inc.**Submission Date :** MAY 11,2015**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-253**Manufacturer Recall No. :** RC-01 and RC-02**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Mastercraft Boat Company Inc.

Address : 100 Cherokee Cove Drive

Vonore TN 37885

Company phone : 865-215-1000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 1,740

Estimated percentage with defect : 100

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2015-2015 MasterCraft 2015 model boat trailers

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recalled vehicles are boat trailers.

Production Dates : APR 01, 2014 - MAR 11, 2015

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : 19MSB2414F2D70001

End : 19MSB2621F2E80140

 Not sequential VINs

Begin : 19MSB2414F2D70001

End : 19MSB2621F2E80140

 Not sequential VINs**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The heat treatment allegedly performed on the trailer tongue bolt by the manufacturer thereof, Tie Down, Inc., was not effective, resulting in fatigue strength below design specifications. This can result in failure of the trailer tongue bolt, which in turn can cause the trailer swing tongue to disengage.

Description of the Safety Risk : If the trailer tongue bolt fails during transit, it could potentially result in loss of control of the tow vehicle, especially when hauling a boat on the trailer, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : The cause is a trailer tongue bolt that has fatigue strength below design specifications because of insufficient heat treatment by the manufacturer of the trailer tongue bolt.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : MasterCraft is not aware of any warning that can precede or occur prior to failure of the trailer tongue bolt.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : Tie Down, Inc.

Address : 255 Villanova Drive SW
Atlanta 30336

Country : NR

Chronology :

MasterCraft recently became aware of four (4) different trailer swing arm pivot bolt failures in the field, which led to an extensive investigation and experiment (i) to test the life cycle of the subject swing arm pivot bolt and related hardware, and (ii) to find an appropriate replacement swing arm pivot bolt and related hardware for purposes of making the necessary repairs to the trailers in the recall population.

The first event occurred on December 1, 2014, when a MasterCraft dealer in Australia notified MasterCraft that a trailer had suffered a swing arm pivot bolt failure during towing, which resulted in additional pin and swing tongue failure. Damage occurred to the trailer and the hull of the boat on the trailer, but there was no other injury or damage.

The second event occurred on February 3, 2015, when a MasterCraft dealer in North Dakota inspected a new trailer that it had just received from the MasterCraft factory. The North Dakota dealer found the trailer to have a failed swing arm pivot bolt and bushings. The trailer was damaged (the bolt and bushings had to be replaced), but there was no other damage or injury.

The third incident occurred on February 13, 2015, when a MasterCraft dealer in Maine inspected a new trailer that it had just received from the MasterCraft factory. The Maine dealer found the trailer to have a failed swing arm pivot bolt, pin and bushings, but the swing tongue did not fail on this trailer. The trailer was damaged (the bolt, pin and bushings had to be replaced), but there was no other damage or injury.

The fourth and final incident occurred on April 9, 2015, when a MasterCraft dealer was towing a boat to another dealership in Australia. The swing arm pivot bolt failed and the pull pin failed, but the swing tongue did not fail. The trailer was damaged (the bolt and pull pin had to be replaced), but there was no other damage or injury.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : MasterCraft will promptly notify the affected consumers (those consumers who have purchased a trailer in the recall population) and all of its authorized dealers regarding this recall and the necessary steps to be taken to remedy the defect. Based upon slight differences in the trailer swing tongues, some of the trailers in the recall population will need to have the swing tongue bolt and related hardware replaced (bolt, pin and four (4) bushings), which MasterCraft has internally designated as recall campaign RC-01, while the other trailers will simply need to have the swing tongue bolt replaced with a new swing tongue bolt, which MasterCraft has internally designated as recall campaign RC-02. Labor time for replacement of the swing tongue bolt is expected to be six (6) minutes, while labor time

for replacement of swing tongue bolt, pin and four (4) bushings is expected to be approximately fifteen (15) minutes. MasterCraft is shipping all of the necessary replacement parts at no charge to its dealers, and MasterCraft will pay its dealers the customary labor rates for performing the recall repairs to the trailers. In other words, the repairs will be made free of charge to the customers that have purchased a trailer in the recall population, and free of charge to the dealers that have recalled trailers in their inventory.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The defective swing tongue bolt is made of non-certified material and it contains a drilled grease hole. The replacement swing tongue bolt is made of certified grade 5 material without a grease hole. The original pull pin for the swing tongue bolt is also made of non-certified material, and the replacement pull pins are made from certified materials. The original bushings that need to be replaced are made of bronze, and the replacement bushings are made of steel.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Once the defective swing bolt was discovered, MasterCraft stopped using the defective swing bolt and related hardware (pull pin and bushings), and MasterCraft started using the replacement swing tongue bolt and related hardware. The change in production practices occurred on or about March 11, 2015.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : MasterCraft dealers have already been notified of this pending recall by letter (sent by email) from MasterCraft dated April 21, 2015, and the dealer notification letters were accompanied by two (2) separate Service Bulletins (RC-01 and RC-02) that describe in detail the necessary repairs to be performed to the trailers. MasterCraft will notify the affected consumers as soon as its proposed consumer notification letter is approved by NHTSA.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 11, 2015 - MAY 05, 2016

* NR - Not Reported