

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**15V-873****Manufacturer Name :** H&H Trailers, LLC**Submission Date :** JAN 29, 2016**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-873**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : H&H Trailers, LLC

Address : 222 N 1st Street

Clarinda IA 51632

Company phone : 7125422618

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 1,847

Estimated percentage with defect : 30

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2015-2016 H&H Trailer, LLC GCA Golf Car Trailer, AMS Bike Trailer, RSA Rail Side Single Axle Utility Trailers, RSA Rail Side Tandem Axle Utility Trailers, SSA Solid Side Single Axle Utility Trailers, and SSA Solid Side Tandem Axle Utility Trailers

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : H&H Trailers, LLC purchases the metal (extrusion) it uses to manufacture aluminum gate hinges. This metal (extrusion) produced is a 6061-T6 alloy and temper. 6061-T6 is required to contain a minimum yield strength. H&H Trailers, LLC received a shipment of metal, 6061-T6, in October 2014 (which was later found to be under the min. yield strength). No issues were noticed immediately. H&H has now determined that some of the trailer hinges produced with this shipment of metal are bending or breaking. Preliminary testing indicates that there may be (2) contributing factors. (1) The extruded material being low to H&H Trailers, LLC specification on the minimum yield; and (2) the trailer hinge product design as it relates to the impact of the mig welding of the hinge to the trailer and the heat effect to the extrusion. Replacement extrusions will be provided to the new H&H product design. Marketing material for the trailers is being provided which shows the location of the gates which contain the hinges at issue.

Production Dates : NOV 01, 2014 - OCT 16, 2015

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : As noted above, H&H Trailers, LLC purchases the metal (extrusion) it uses to manufacture aluminum gate hinges. This metal (extrusion) produced is a 6061-T6 alloy and temper. 6061-T6 is required to contain a minimum yield strength. H&H

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FMVSS 1 :NR

FMVSS 2 :NR

Description of the Safety Risk : While the bending may result in the inability to effectively open and shut the trailer, it is also possible that the hinges could break which may result in the springing open of the gate while in use or stationary.

Description of the Cause : As noted above, H&H Trailers, LLC purchases metal (extrusion) it uses to manufacture the aluminum gate hinge produced which is a 6061-T6 alloy and temper. 6061-T6 is required to contain a minimum yield strength. H&H Trailers, LLC received a shipment of metal in October 2014 (which was later found to be under the min. yield strength). No issues were noticed immediately. Preliminary testing indicates that there may be (2) contributing factors. (1) extruded material being low to H&H specification on the min yield and (2) the trailer hinge product design as it relates to the impact of the mig welding of the hinge to the trailer and the heat effect to the extrusion.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : H & H Trailers has not yet identified any warnings that may precede the defect or noncompliance. It is possible that visible bending of the hinge, or difficulty operating the gate, may precede a complete failure of the hinge.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : H&H Trailers, LLC

Address : 222 N. 1st Street

Clarinda IOWA 51632

Country : United States

Chronology :

This chronology of events takes too much space to fit here. I will attach as a document.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : H & H Trailers is currently working on the details of a repair program. That repair program will likely include sending out replacement hinge kits with instructions to dealers on the proper way to replace the hinges. H & H Trailers will notify its dealers, issue press releases, and will put contact information on its website. H & H Trailers will work with its

dealers to replace the hinges at issue. If owners and purchasers already have incurred repair costs, upon notifying H & H Trailers of the costs associated with such repairs and receipts for the repair work, H & H Trailers will reimburse those owners and purchasers. H & H Trailers will provide supplemental notification to NHTSA on its repair plan as soon as it has confirmation on when the appropriate metal is available to H & H Trailers.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The repair part will be fabricated using a stronger metal. Additionally, the repair part will be manufactured different so it can be bolted on to the gate rather than welded on. This will aid in easier installation in the field. Moving forward, trailers will be manufactured with hinges made from a stronger metal. The metal will undergo testing at three locations and pursuant to certain ASTM standards.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : On October 15, 2015, after H & H Trailers had contacted Sapa about broken hinges, Sapa quarantined the metal that H & H Trailers had been using to make the hinges. H & H Trailers used metal provided by Sapa from a different batch after Sapa took possession of the old metal. Since receiving the December 11, 2015 testing report from Sapa, H & H Trailers has decided to redesign the hinges and put metal through an even more rigorous testing procedure.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : H & H Trailers currently anticipates that it will begin issuing dealer and owner notices around January 4, 2016. H & H Trailers anticipates working on the notification issues as soon as it complies with its reporting obligations to NHTSA. H & H Trailers will provide NHTSA with supplemental notice regarding the actual date on which owner and purchaser notifications will be issued

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 04, 2016 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 04, 2016 - NR

* NR - Not Reported