



STRICK TRAILERS, LLC

225 Lincoln Highway
Fairless Hills
Pennsylvania, USA
19030.0009
215.949.3600



IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

This notice applies to your vehicles
identified on the enclosed spreadsheet

September 29, 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL – R.R.R.

Estes Express Lines
Attn: Mike Palmer
3901 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23230-3962

Dear Mr. Palmer,

This notice is sent in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Strick Trailers, LLC ("Strick Trailers") has decided that certain 28 ft. and 33 ft. dry freight van trailers, model number S4280E99NFWOP and model number S4330E99NFOPWW, as identified on the enclosed spreadsheet, fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 224 "Rear Impact Protection".

The noncompliance is in regards to the location of the axle on your 28 ft. and 33 ft. dry freight van trailers. The axle is positioned such that the trailers do not uniformly meet the "wheels back" criteria of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard ("FMVSS") 224 as they were originally intended. This could increase the risk of injury in the event of a rear impact crash.

In order to remedy the noncompliance, Strick Trailers will provide rear impact protection in accordance with the requirements of FMVSS 224 by reinforcing the rear impact guards by replacing the curbside and roadside rear impact guard gussets in accordance with the instructions (Drawing 705290) attached to this letter. We will supply the new replacement parts without cost and will ship them to multiple locations at your request. The parts necessary to replace the gussets are expected to be available for delivery beginning on November 25, 2015. We will also reimburse you for the reasonable direct labor costs involved in effecting the repair or will have the repair facilities bill us directly. The work to replace the rear impact guard gussets will take approximately two hours to perform.

We will make ourselves available to answer any questions that arise during the course of this modification program, and, if requested, assist you in locating qualified repair facilities. We will also provide training or any other support you need. If you need any assistance, please contact me, Jerry Clontz, at jclontz@diamatrix.net or 1-704-436-2590.



Estes Express Lines
September 29, 2015
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Invoices for completed work should be submitted with authorization number M2014036 and a list of vehicle identification numbers for the serviced equipment to:

Strick Trailers, LLC
301 N. Polk Street
Monroe, IN 46772

If you have had your vehicle repaired prior to receipt of this notice, you may be entitled to reimbursement if you incurred any out-of-pocket cost due to this matter. For further information, please contact us at 1-704-436-2590.

Federal law requires any lessor who receives a notification of a determination of a safety-related defect or noncompliance pertaining to any leased motor vehicle to send the notice to the lessee within 10 days.

We regret any inconvenience this action may cause you. However, we are concerned about your safety, and we have notified the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of this program. If you are unable to have these defects remedied without charge, you may submit a complaint to:

Administrator, U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Alternatively, you may call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153) or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,


Jerry Clontz

STEPS:

1. UNBOLT THE REAR IMPACT GUARD TUBE AND DISCARD THE BOLTS, NUTS AND WASHERS.
2. INSPECT THE TUBE FOR STRAIGHTNESS AND EXCESSIVE CORROSION. IF THE TUBE HAS A 1" OR GREATER BEND OR HAS EXCESSIVE CORROSION NEAR THE BOLTED CONNECTION DISCARD AND REPLACE IT. IF A NEW RIG TUBE IS NEEDED CONTACT STRICK TRAILERS LLC ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AT 260-692-6121.
3. UNBOLT THE EXISTING GUSSETS FROM THE REAR SILL AND SUSPENSION I-BEAM TAB AND DISCARD THE GUSSETS.
4. REMOVE THE TABS WELDED TO THE SUSPENSION I-BEAM SHOWN IN DETAIL A ON SHEET 2. DO NOT CUT INTO ANY SURFACE OF THE I-BEAM. GRIND THE REMAINING SURFACE FLAT.
5. ATTACH THE PROVIDED DRILL TEMPLATE USING THE OLD GUSSET'S BOLTS AND NUTS IN THE EXISTING 5/8" HOLES IN THE REAR SILL BASEPLATE. TIGHTEN THE BOLTS ENOUGH TO KEEP THE TEMPLATE FROM MOVING.
6. MARK AND DRILL 33/64" DIAMETER HOLES IN THE REAR SILL BASEPLATE FOR 1/2" BOLTS.
7. REPEAT STEPS 5 AND 6 FOR THE OPPOSITE SIDE. ONCE BOTH SIDES ARE DRILLED DISCARD THE TEMPLATE.
8. ASSEMBLE THE BUMPER TUBE AND NEW GUSSETS USING THE PROVIDED HARDWARE, BUT DO NOT FULLY TORQUE BOLTS. REFERENCE SHEET 3 FOR ASSEMBLY. DO NOT REUSE ANY OLD BOLTS, NUTS OR WASHERS.
9. BOLT THE NEW GUSSETS TO THE REAR SILL USING THE OLD GUSSET'S BOLTS AND NUTS. TIGHTEN THEM ENOUGH TO HOLD THE GUSSETS FROM MOVING. BE SURE TO VERIFY THAT 3 HOLES ARE ON THE OUTSIDE AND 2 HOLES ARE ON THE INSIDE OF THE I-BEAM FLANGE. REFER TO DETAIL B ON SHEET 2.
10. MARK THE HOLE LOCATIONS ON THE SUSPENSION I-BEAM USING THE PLATE ON THE GUSSET.
11. ONCE BOTH SIDES ARE MARKED REMOVE THE GUSSETS AND DISCARD THE USED BOLTS AND NUTS.
12. DRILL 33/64" DIAMETER HOLES IN THE I-BEAM FLANGE FOR 1/2" BOLTS. CLEAN SURFACES AND APPLY UNDERCOAT, PRIMER, PAINT OR EQUIVALENT TO PREVENT CORROSION. BE SURE TO APPLY TO ALL DRILLED HOLES.
14. AFTER THE APPROPRIATE DRY TIME, PLACE THE NEW GUSSET ON THE TRAILER AND ATTACH USING THE SPECIFIED BOLTS SHOWN ON SHEET 3. DO NOT REUSE ANY OLD BOLTS, NUTS OR WASHERS.
15. TIGHTEN ALL BOLTS TO THE TORQUE VALUES GIVEN BELOW.
16. ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE INSTALLATION OF THE REAR IMPACT GUARD RETROFIT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO STRICK TRAILERS LLC ENGINEERING AT 260-692-6121.

FASTENERS MUST BE TORQUED TO THE FOLLOWING VALUES:

- 1/2" GRADE 5 BOLTS WITH CLEAN DRY THREADS: 75FT-LBS TORQUE
- 5/8" GRADE 8 BOLTS WITH CLEAN DRY THREADS: 190-210 FT-LBS TORQUE

REVISIONS

ECH. NO.	REV.	REMARKS	DATE	DRN
	A	UPDATED DRAWING WITH CHANGES REQUESTED	09/21/15	JMK

STRICK TRAILERS, LLC #705290 / REAR IMPACT GUARD FIELD RETROFIT INSTRUCTIONS:

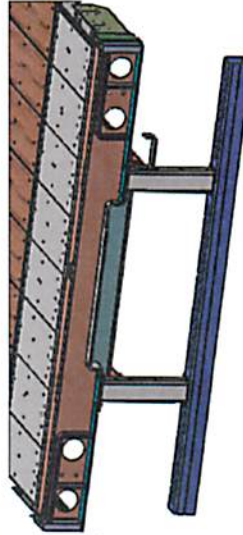
NOTE: THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS AND DIAGRAMS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPDATING THE EXISTING STRICK O.E.M. REAR IMPACT GUARD. THE PERSON(S) PERFORMING THE WORK SHOULD ADHERE STRICTLY TO THE INSTRUCTIONS SET FORTH HEREIN AND BE FAMILIAR WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF ALL APPLICABLE REGULATIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS PART 393.86 (REAR IMPACT GUARDS AND REAR IMPACT PROTECTION) AND/OR CANADA MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD 223 (REAR IMPACT GUARD).

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

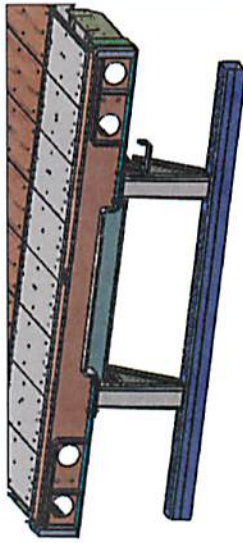
STRICK REAR IMPACT GUARD (RIG) ASSEMBLIES OR COMPONENTS MUST NOT BE INSTALLED ON OTHER MANUFACTURERS' TRAILERS. BEFORE BEGINNING THE WORK, MAKE CERTAIN THE TRAILER IS CHOCKED TO PREVENT MOVEMENT. USE A CONSPICUOUS SIGN, BARRIER OR OTHER METHOD TO PREVENT A TRACTOR FROM BACKING UNDER THE TRAILER DURING THE REPAIR PROCESS.

PROPER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES DURING REAR IMPACT GUARD UPGRADE.

CURRENT DESIGN



NEW DESIGN



MATERIAL: X

ISSUED FOR:	DATE	DATE
ISSUED FOR:	JMK	09/17/2015
APPROVED BY:		
DESIGNED BY:		
CHECKED BY:		
ASSEMBLY:		
ANNUAL:		

STRICK TRAILERS, LLC MONROE, IN 45772 SW

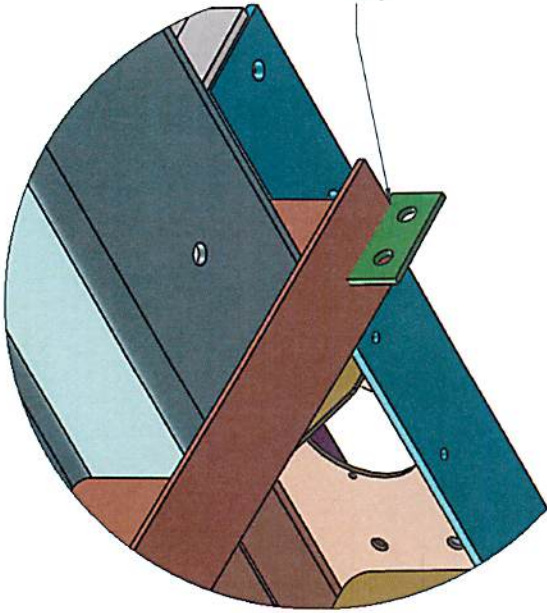
FIELD, INST, RIG, UPG, ESTES, 41745/46 FIX, PH

THIS DRAWING IS LOANED FOR PURPOSE OF ENGINEERING STUDY ONLY WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IT SHALL BE HELD IN CONFERENCE AND FOR THE PURPOSES OF STRICK TRAILERS, LLC. IT IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED, COPIED, USED, DISCLOSED OR TRANSMITTED IN ANY MANNER WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF STRICK TRAILERS, LLC. ANY INFORMATION FOR MAKING OF DRAWINGS PRINTS OR APPARATUS EQUIPMENT MATERIALS OR PARTS THEREOF EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF STRICK TRAILERS, LLC.

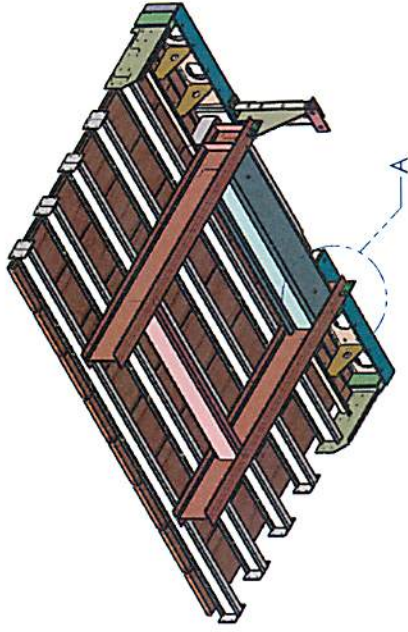
705290/

Sheet 1 of 3

705290/

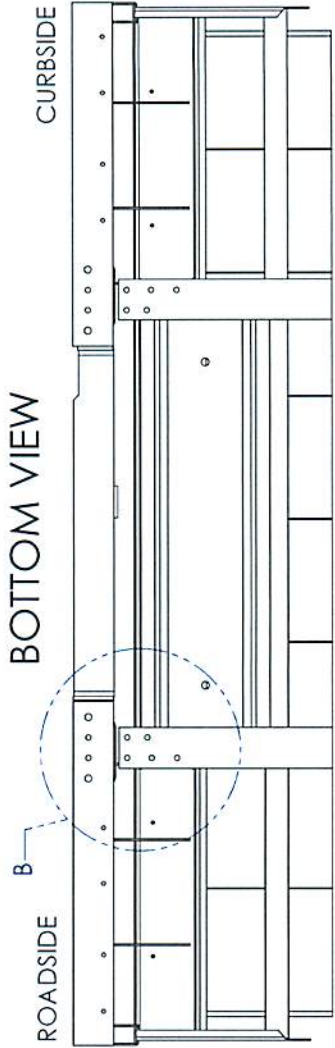


REMOVE TAB AND GRIND SMOOTH



DETAIL A
SCALE 1 : 4

DETAIL B
SCALE 1 : 6

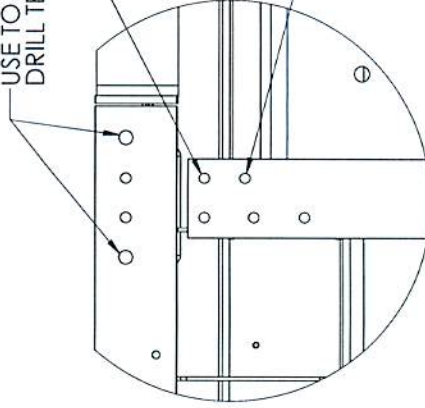


BOTTOM VIEW

USE TO LOCATE DRILL TEMPLATE

NOTE: 3 HOLES TO OUTSIDE
2 HOLES TO INSIDE

Ø .516 (33/64 DRILL BIT)



MATERIAL: X		DATE		DATE		DATE	
STRICK		JMK		09/17/2015		09/17/2015	
STRICK TRAILERS, LLC		MONROE, IN 46772		SW		FIELD, INST, RIG, UPG, ESTES, 41745/46 FIX, PH	
705290/		Sheet 2 of 3		705290/		705290 /	
<p>THIS DRAWING IS LOANED FOR PURPOSE OF ENGINEERING STUDY ONLY WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IT SHALL BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE AND FOR THE PURPOSES OF STRICK TRAILERS, LLC. IT IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED, COPIED, OR TRANSMITTED IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS, ELECTRONIC OR MECHANICAL, INCLUDING PHOTOCOPYING, RECORDING, OR BY ANY INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM, WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF STRICK TRAILERS, LLC.</p>		<p>GENERAL NOTES: FABRICATED PARTS DECIMAL = 1.00"</p>		<p>ASSEMBLY'S DECIMAL = 1.00"</p>		<p>AN HOUR A DAY</p>	

Estes Express Lines	1S11E9337FE531203	Strick	S4330E99NFOPWW	2015	06/23/14	Single axle 33 foot van trailer with pintle hook
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