



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

April 28, 2016

Mr. Mike Gerken  
Hillsboro Industries  
220 Industrial Road  
Hillsboro, KS 67063

NEF-150MR  
16V-214

**Subject:** Axle May Loosen and Shift

Dear Mr. Gerken:

This letter serves to acknowledge Hillsboro Industries'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:**

HILLSBORO/ALUMINUM UTILITY TRAILER/2016

**Mfr's Report Date:** April 12, 2016

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 16V-214

**Components:**

SUSPENSION:REAR:AXLE:NON-POWERED AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 26

**Problem Description:**

Hillsboro Industries (Hillsboro) is recalling certain model year 2016 Open Aluminum Utility Trailers manufactured November 6, 2015, to April 1, 2016. On these trailers with a 2,990 Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR), the axle attachment hardware may have been improperly installed, and as a result, the axle may not remain secured and aligned.

**Consequence:**

If the axle shifts, the trailer may pull to one side, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Hillsboro believes that all affected trailers were quarantined at dealers before being sold, therefore owner notifications will not be sent. Dealers will correct the axle mounting, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin by the end of April 2016. Owners may contact Hillsboro customer service at 1-316-947-3127.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received Hillsboro's proposed owner notification letter, provided in case Hillsboro learns that a trailer was sold before the recall remedy could be performed. As submitted, the letter does not meet 49 CFR part 577 requirements. We will notify you of the required changes that must be made before sending the letter 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](mailto:michelle.rice@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian".

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