



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 30, 2016

Bob Mortenson
ALUMA/KLM
101 E Senaca Rd
Bancroft, IA 50517

NEF-150MR
16V-572

Subject: Trailer may Separate due to Missing Welds

Dear Bob Mortenson:

This letter serves to acknowledge ALUMA/KLM'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:

ALUMA KLM/5410T/2011-2015

ALUMA KLM/5410WD/2011-2015

Mfr's Report Date: July 31, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16V-572

Components:

TRAILER HITCHES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 529

Problem Description:

Aluma/KLM is recalling certain model year 2011-2015 5410T and 5410WD trailers manufactured January 1, 2011, to June 1, 2015. Due to missing welds, the trailer tongues may separate from the body of the trailer.

Consequence:

If the trailer tongue separates, the rear of the tongue retainer and tongue tube will drag on pavement and the trailer will not be properly secured to the tow vehicle, resulting in a loss of control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Aluma/KLM will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the trailers for missing welds, adding any missing welds and retrofitting two additional gussets, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Aluma/KLM customer service at 1-866-415-3285.

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.

The information in your report suggests that Aluma/KLM may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. Please be reminded that under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. 49 CFR 573.6

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