



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 19, 2016

Mr. Brent Roy
Compliance
Autocar Industries, LLC
551 S Washington Street
Hagerstown, IN 47362

NEF-150KS
16V-723

Subject: Improperly Torqued Steering Linkage Castle Nuts

Dear Mr. Roy:

This letter serves to acknowledge Autocar Industries, LLC'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:

AUTOCAR/XPERT/2015-2017
AUTOCAR/XSPOTTER/2015-2017

Mfr's Report Date: October 6, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16V-723

Components:

STEERING:LINKAGES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,132

Problem Description:

Autocar Industries, LLC (Autocar) is recalling certain model year 2015-2017 Xspotter and Xpert vehicles manufactured March 2, 2015, to September 22, 2016. The castle nuts on the steering linkage assembly may not have been tightened properly.

Consequence:

If the castle nuts were not properly tightened, the cotter pin could shear and the steering linkage assembly components could separate, resulting in the loss of steering and increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

The remedy for this recall campaign is still under development. The recall is expected to begin on November 18, 2016. Owners may contact Autocar customer service at 1-888-218-3611. Autocar's number for this recall is MDTT-1602.

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).

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 Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@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