

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 16V-557

**Manufacturer Name :** Load Trail LLC**Submission Date :** OCT 20, 2016**NHTSA Recall No. :** 16V-557**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Load Trail LLC

Address : 220 FM 2216

Sumner TX 75486

Company phone : 800-650-5194

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 54

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2014-2016 Load Trail 81.5 x 22 Triple Axle Tilt Deck with modifications specified by Altec Inc.

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : This recall involves only Load Trail 81.5 x 22 Triple Axle Tilt Deck with modifications requested by Altec Inc. ("Altec") for use to transport the TDA58 Articulating Telescopic Aerial Device, sold by Altec.

Production Dates : JAN 01, 2014 - JAN 01, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Cracking in welds where the front bumper, frame, and stationary deck are joined.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Cracking in welds could cause the welds to fail and the equipment potentially to become disengaged from the trailer.

Description of the Cause : Load Trail sells trailers through its dealer to Altec. Altec then uses the trailers to transport equipment and sells the equipment and trailer to its customers as a package. For the trailers subject to this recall, Altec requested that Load Trail add D-ring modifications to the front stationary deck according to a schematic designed by Altec, and Altec directed its customers to secure equipment using the optional D-rings instead of stake pockets on the side that are designed to be used as the standard tie down points for equipment loaded on the trailers. The weight of the equipment and the location of the optional D-rings may cause cracking in welds where the front bumper, frame and stationary deck are joined.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** A visual inspection of the welds where front bumper, frame and stationary deck are joined will show cracking in welds.

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

## Chronology :

12/9/15: Altec reported to Load Trail that one of Altec's customers with trailer had experienced cracking in welds where the front bumper, frame, and stationary deck are joined. The Altec customer had a third party correct this issue. Upon learning of the weld-crack issue, Load Trail issued a written rework procedure to Altec that added supports for the stationary deck to resolve the cracking issues in the front bumper area. At that time, Load Trail incorporated this rework procedure into the build process on all trailers being built at Load Trail for Altec that Altec then uses to transport equipment.

4/5/16: Altec reported another issue regarding the same weld-cracking problem on another trailer. Load Trail developed and issued a written inspection procedure to Altec so its customers could inspect other trailers in the field. After inspection conducted, Altec discovered there were other trailers in the field that were displaying cracking of the same welds on the stationary deck. After receiving the results from Altec's inspection, Load Trail moved forward to add supports to all tilt deck trailers that Altec had purchased to transport the equipment, regardless of whether the trailer experienced weld-cracking or not.

Between April 2016 and July 2016: Load Trail and Altec located and repaired approximately 70% of the 52 potentially-affected trailers through the issuance of a service bulletin.

7/18/16: Load Trail made determination to file a safety recall report rather than continuing to correct the defect through a service bulletin, after discussion with a NHTSA representative.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** Load Trail will repair the affected trailers using the repair procedures developed and implemented through its service bulletin. Load Trail will also agree to reimburse any Altec customer who purchased one of the 52 potentially affected trailers who fixed or attempted to fix the weld cracking issue at his or her own cost before Load Trail notified NHTSA or issued its owner notifications.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Load Trail corrected this problem in its trailer manufacturing in December 2015 by implementing service bulletin repair procedures.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Load Trail anticipates that owner letters will be sent out within 30 days of NHTSA sending a written acknowledgement letter to Load Trail approving the contents of this safety defect report. A final copy of the owner letter will be provided to NHTSA, along with repair procedures. All repairs will be completed within 60 days of a customer presenting its trailer to Altec or Load Trail for repair.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 20, 2016 - SEP 20, 2016

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 20, 2016 - SEP 20, 2016

\* NR - Not Reported