

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

16V-830

Manufacturer Name : Aluminum Trailer Company**Submission Date :** NOV 21, 2016**NHTSA Recall No. :** 16V-830**Manufacturer Recall No. :** ARVFTANK**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Aluminum Trailer Company

Number of potentially involved : 46

Address : 306 S. Nappanee Street

Estimated percentage with defect : 46 %

Nappanee IN 46650

Company phone : 574-773-2440

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2016-2017 ATC ARVAB7020+0-2T3.5K

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Bumper Pull 7 wide toy hauler with fuel tank optioned

Production Dates : OCT 01, 2015 - OCT 31, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2016-2017 ATC ARVAB8520+0-2T3.5K

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Bumper Pull 8 wide toy hauler with fuel tank optioned

Production Dates : OCT 01, 2015 - OCT 31, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2016-2017 ATC ARVAB8520+0-2T5.2K

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Bumper Pull 8 wide toy hauler with fuel tank optioned

Production Dates : OCT 01, 2015 - OCT 31, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2016-2017 ATC ARVAB8524+0-2T5.2K

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Bumper Pull 8 wide toy hauler with fuel tank optioned

Production Dates : OCT 01, 2015 - OCT 31, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 2016-2017 ATC ARVAB8528+0-2T5.2K

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Bumper Pull 8 wide toy hauler with fuel tank optioned

Production Dates : OCT 01, 2015 - OCT 31, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The defect is related to the bolts which attach the fuel tanks to the subframe of the trailer. The defect relates to tanks which were installed without a rivnut and with bolts with a 3/8" head. the bolt may eventually work its self loose and if enough bolts are loose the tank may eventually become dislodged

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the tank becomes dislodged from the subframe of the trailer during transit then the steel tank could cause sparks and eventually catch on fire. There is also risk of fuel leaking onto the road.

Description of the Cause : The defect was caused by a change in the process of installing fuel tanks for the ARV model which was not well documented or tested. The process has been corrected and processes have been implemented to assure future compliance

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Warnings would be noticing looseness or missing bolts in a visual inspection. The bolts have 3/8" heads which may become loose or are completely missing from the attachment point.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR
Address : NR
NR
Country : NR

Chronology :

We have a company demonstration ARV model unit which was being used the weekend of October 30, 2016. On the way home from their trip our employee was flagged down and told that sparks were flying from underneath the trailer. Our employee immediately pulled over and noticed that fuel was leaking and that the tank had become dislodged. He removed the tank so that there was no more safety hazard. It was not known if this was an isolated incident caused by damage to the unit or some other cause. The trailer was brought back to the factory and inspected and the ATC team began investigating possible causes. It was discovered that there were 3 changes in process to how the fuel tanks were installed on the ARV model trailers. On November 8th after some testing in ATC's engineering department it was determined that the middle process of the 3 different processes had the potential of allowing the bolts on the tank mounting bracket to work themselves loose. As ATC was not able to identify which units were manufactured during the middle process, all units manufactured during the time frame of the 3 processes have been recalled.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program :	The remedy for this defect will be to remove any bolts which have the 3/8" head. The tube will then be drilled out with a 5/6" drill bit. New bolts and lockwashers will be provided and these new sets will be installed into the newly drilled holes. They will be torqued to 20ft-lbs. ATC will reimburse any customers who incurred costs to repair the defects before our notification was sent. ATC has changed its production process on the ARV line to ensure verification of the correct installation after this issue was discovered.
How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :	The recalled component has a 3/8" bolt head. The replacement bolt has a 9/16" bolt head.
Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :	On November 8th after our testing was complete, we changed our installation process for tanks on the ARV line to include a rivnut and a 3/8" threaded bolt with a 9/16" head. This process is in line with how we produce trailers on our other lines.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : We will notify customers within 30 days of receiving their addresses from dealers; we will notify dealers within 15 days of filing this report

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 29, 2016 - DEC 02, 2016

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 13, 2017 - JAN 13, 2017

* NR - Not Reported