



## **IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL**

This notice applies to your vehicles,

NHTSA Recall Number: 16V-557

September 21, 2016

Re: Recall of Certain Load Trail 81.5 x 22 Triple Axle Tilt Deck Trailers

Dear Load Trail Trailer Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

### **Reason for the Recall**

Load Trail, LLC. ("Load Trail") has decided that a safety defect exists in certain model year 2014 through 2016 Load Trail 81.5 x 22 Triple Axle Tilt Deck Trailers that were sold by Altec, Inc. ("Altec") to transport TDA58 Articulating Telescopic Aerial Device ("Equipment"). Altec requested that Load Trail add D-ring modifications to the front stationary deck of the trailer to transport the Equipment, and Altec then directed its customers to secure the Equipment using the optional D-rings instead of stake pockets on the trailer's sides. When the Equipment is secured in this manner, the Equipment's weight and the location of the optional D-rings may cause cracking in welds where the front bumper, frame and stationary deck are joined. This cracking may create a safety risk by causing the welds to fail and the Equipment potentially to become disengaged from the trailer.

This recall notice only applies to Load Trail 81.5 x 22 Triple Axle Tilt Deck Trailers with D-ring modifications installed to transport the Equipment. All other Load Trail 81.5 x 22 Triple Axle Tilt Deck Trailers are not affected.

This weld-cracking issue may cause a crash due to the potential disengagement of the Equipment from the trailer. A crash will be preceded by cracking in the welds where the front bumper, frame and stationary deck are joined.

### **What Load Trail Is Going to Do**

Load Trail will repair the affected trailers by re-welding any cracked welds and adding supports to the stationary deck and frame to resolve the cracking issues in the front bumper area. The repairs will be performed at no cost to you, either at the Load Trail facility located in Sumner, TX, at an Altec facility, or a third-party service center arranged for and under the direction of Load Trail. The working time required to complete this repair is approximately 4 to 6 hours.

### What You Should Do

You should immediately conduct a visual inspection of the welds where the front bumper, frame and stationary deck are joined in order to see if cracking in these welds has occurred. If any cracks in these welds are found, you should take the trailer out of service. Even if an inspection does not show cracks, Load Trail will conduct a recall campaign for trailers described above.

Please contact: (a) Load Trail by phone at 903-783-3900 (warranty department) or by email at [warranty@loadtrail.com](mailto:warranty@loadtrail.com); or (b) Altec by phone at 877-462-5832 (warranty department) as soon as possible to schedule the free repair. The vehicle owner is responsible for making arrangements to have the work completed. It is helpful to Load Trail or Altec to have a copy of this letter when you take your trailer in for the recall remedy.

If you already paid to have this recall condition corrected prior to this notice, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement. Please contact Load Trail by phone at 903-783-3900 (warranty department) or by email at [warranty@loadtrail.com](mailto:warranty@loadtrail.com) for further information. Claims may also be submitted by mail to Load Trail, Inc. at 220 FM 2216, Sumner, TX 75486. Documentation supporting any such claims should, at a minimum, identify the trailer involved, specify who performed the repairs, detail what repairs were made, and provide the date and cost of the repairs.

You have received this letter because government regulations require that a notification be sent to the last known owner of record. Our records indicate that you are the current owner. If you are no longer the trailer owner and have the address for the current owner, please provide us with any contact information that you may have so that we can contact the new owners. Please call 903-783-3900 (warranty department) or send an email to [warranty@loadtrail.com](mailto:warranty@loadtrail.com).

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If you believe Load Trail has failed to remedy the defect without charge or if, after having attempted to take advantage of this recall, you believe you have not been able to have your trailer remedied without charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C., 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Please accept our utmost apologies for this inconvenience. Please know that we have taken this action in the interest of your safety and continued satisfaction with our trailers.

Best regards,

Load Trail, LLC