



STRICK TRAILERS, LLC

225 Lincoln Highway

Fairless Hills

Pennsylvania, USA

19030.0009

215.949.3600



March 2, 2016

VIA RECALL PORTAL

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590
RMD.ODI@dot.gov

Re: Safety Defect Report

Dear Administrator:

Please be advised that Strick Trailers, LLC ("Strick Trailers") has determined that a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards exists in the vehicles listed in the attached spreadsheet and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 573, Sec. 573.6:

1. Full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer:

Strick Trailers, LLC
301 N. Polk Street
Monroe, IN 46772

Inquiries regarding this report may be directed to:

Shari M. Solomon, Esq.
General Counsel
Diamatrix, Inc.
225 Lincoln Highway, Suite 201
Fairless Hills, PA 19030
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Associate Administrator for Enforcement

March 2, 2016

Page 2

2. Identification of the recall population: The recall population includes certain Strick single axle fixed suspension dry freight van trailers that are equipped with a Strick rear impact guard that uses gusset part numbers 50185 and 50186. Trailers equipped with these rear impact guard gussets were manufactured between January 2001 and July 2011. The attached spreadsheet sets forth the make, model, model years, vehicle identification numbers and manufacturing dates of the recalled vehicles. The recall population was determined through identification of all vehicles whose rear impact guard incorporates gusset part numbers 50185 and 50186.
3. The total number of vehicles in the recall population: 233, as listed on the attached spreadsheet.
4. Estimated percent with noncompliance: The percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the noncompliance is 100%.
5. Description of noncompliance: The rear impact guards using gussets 50185 and 50186 do not meet the standards set forth in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 223. This could increase the risk of injury in the event of a rear impact crash.
6. Chronology of events:
 - (a) On October 2, 2014, Strick Trailers determined that the design of a rear impact guard using gussets 50185 and 50186 may not have been verified using prescribed test procedures.
 - (b) Between October 2, 2014 and approximately November 16, 2015, Strick Trailers (i) identified the population of all vehicles on which rear impact guards containing gussets 50185 and 50186 were installed; (ii) reviewed all the vehicle designs; and (iii) determined that the vehicles did not qualify as "wheels back" and thus required a rear impact guard in accordance with the provisions of FMVSS 224 and FMVSS 223.
 - (c) Between November 16, 2015 and November 23, 2015, Strick Trailers researched all variations in the installation on vehicles of rear impact guards containing gussets 50185 and 50186.
 - (d) Between November 23, 2015, and February 24, 2016, Strick Trailers prepared bills of materials, drawings, fabricated and assembled parts for the test specimen.
 - (e) On February 24, 2016, Strick Trailers tested a rear impact guard assembly containing gussets 50185 and 50186. The test was conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in FMVSS 223. Analysis of the test results indicated that the assembly did not meet the requirements of FMVSS 223.



Associate Administrator for Enforcement

March 2, 2016

Page 3

7. Remedy plan: Strick Trailers intends to supply and pay for the installation of reinforcements to the rear impact guard. The remedy plan will be set forth in greater detail in the proposed customer notification letter to be provided to NHTSA within 45 days from the date hereof. Strick Trailers will notify all affected customers within 5 days of NHTSA's approval of the proposed customer notification letter.

8. Representative communications: The proposed form of customer notification letter will be provided to NHTSA for approval within 45 days from the date hereof.

9. Manufacturer's campaign number: Not yet assigned.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shari M. Solomon".

Shari M. Solomon
General Counsel

SMS:dd

Enc.