Part 573 Safety Recall Report

16E-020

Manufacturer Name : Ricon Corporation
Submission Date : MAR 04, 2016
NHTSA Recall No. : 16E-020
Manufacturer Recall No. : NR

Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Ricon Corporation
Address : 1135 Aviation Place
San Fernando CA 91340-1460
Company phone : 818-267-3000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 5,000
Estimated percentage with defect : 7

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade : Ricon
Model : S-Series Wheelchair Lift S2005, S2010, S5510, S5010, S5505, S5005
Part No. : 30863
Size : NR
Function : NR
Descriptive Information : Platform Cracking and Lift Link Arm Pivot Holes
Production Dates : AUG 26, 2014 - JUL 01, 2015

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Ricon Corporation (Ricon) is expanding the population of model S2005, S2010, S5005, S5010, S5505, and S5510 wheelchair lifts to include an additional 5,000 units. The affected wheelchair lifts may experience cracking on the platform side plate which could cause the rear portion of the platform side plate to separate, making the lift inoperable or unsafe for the operator.

FMVSS 1 : 404 - Platform lift installations

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the holes in the folding link arms were not manufactured to the correct size, it is possible that the bearings can move out of position. This in turn allows a substantial amount of free play in a stowed platform. This free play allows an increased load to be applied to the platform mounting and can cause it to fail, increasing the risk of injury to the lift operator.

Description of the Cause : Due to a manufacturing issue, the folding link arms (PN 30863) may have pivot holes that are too large and may allow the bearings to move out of position.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : If the bearing have moved out of position it is visible to inspection. If the platform has begun to crack it is visible to inspection before failure occurs.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR
NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

In July 2014, Ricon filed a Part 573 Report (14E-041) in which the company determined a defect existed in approximately 38,000 wheelchair platform lifts manufactured between January 2006 – August 2014. After initiating the recall remedy, it was determined that the remedy did not adequately address the condition. Thereafter, in August 2015, Ricon filed a subsequent Part 573 Report (15E-068) which identified the root cause as being the result of oversized link arm pivot holes and updated the remedy procedure. Based on information received from a customer in January 2016, the company became aware of the possibility that the serial numbers for some lifts manufactured between August 2014 (the filing of 14E-041) and July 2015 (immediately prior to the filing of 15E-068) may be affected, but were not listed in 15E-068. The company conducted an internal investigation of the matter and described the circumstances leading to the current recall expansion during a call with representatives of the agency's Recall Management Division on February 9, 2016. Ricon is filing this Part 573 report to include the additional serial numbers not originally captured in recall 15E-068. During the course of the internal investigation, it was also discovered that effective quarantine measures could not be confirmed, and may not have been put in place in all facilities involved in the manufacture of these lifts. For that reason, a small batch of lifts manufactured as recently as February will also be included in this filing.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The remedy program consists of inspection and replacement: 1) inspect the link arms for damage, and check if the bearings have moved out of position for any reason. 2) Inspect the platform for any signs of cracking or failure. If damage to the link arm or the platform exists, replacement link arms and/or platform will be supplied at no cost.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy components are known to have the correct size holes for the installation of the bearings

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The oversized condition was identified and corrected in production (06/2015)

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : NR

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 14, 2016 - APR 11, 2016

Planned Owner Notification Date : APR 11, 2016 - MAY 09, 2016

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR
Address : NR
NR
Country : NR
Company Phone : NR

* NR - Not Reported