



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 17, 2017

Mr. Chris Morrison
Warranty Manager
Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.
1 Industrial Complex
Nesquehoning, PA 18240

NEF-150KS
17V-223

Subject: Loose Ball Joints may cause Loss of Steering

Dear Mr. Morrison:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

KME/PREDATOR AERIAL/2014
KME/PREDATOR PUMPER/2014
KME/PREDATOR SS AERIAL/2013-2014
KME/PREDATOR SS PUMPER/2013-2016
KME/PREDATOR TDA/2014

Mfr's Report Date: March 31, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V-223

Components:

SUSPENSION:FRONT:CONTROL ARM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 9

Problem Description:

Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp. (KME) is recalling certain 2013-2014 Predator SS Aerial, 2013-2016 Predator SS Pumper, 2014 Predator Aerial, Predator Pumper, and Predator Pumper TDA trucks. The ball joints on the independent front suspension (IFS) modules can loosen and separate, leading to a partial loss of steering.

Consequence:

A separated ball joint can cause a loss of steering control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

KME will notify owners, and dealers will inspect, clean and secure the ball joint free of charge. The recall is expected to begin May 8, 2017. Owners may contact KME customer service at 1-570-669-5577.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

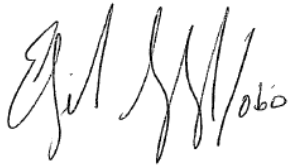
You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Timian', with a date '1/10/10' written at the end of the signature.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement