



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 21, 2017

Mr. Brian Deckard
Director of Fleet Operations
Ride The Ducks International LLC
PO Box 1837
Branson, MO 65615

NEF-150MR
17V-501

Subject: Axle Housing may Fracture due to Fatigue

Dear Mr. Deckard:

This letter serves to acknowledge Ride The Ducks International LLC'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:

RIDE THE DUCKS/AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLE/1996-2005

Mfr's Report Date: August 11, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V-501

Components:

POWER TRAIN:AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 57

Problem Description:

Ride the Ducks International LLC (RTDI) is recalling certain 1996-2005 "Stretch" Amphibious Passenger Vehicles. Due to excessive fatigue, the front axle housing on the affected vehicles may fracture at the connection point between the knuckle ball and the housing, possibly resulting in a loss of vehicle control.

Consequence:

A loss of vehicle control can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

RTDI will notify the company-owned operators and licensors will replace the front axles with one with a coupler welded to the axle, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. RTDI customer service can be contacted at 1-417-266-7600. Note: This recall supersedes recall 16V-589.

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.

We have received RTDI's proposed owner notification letter and have approved it for distribution.
Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at 202-366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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