



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

October 20, 2017

Mr. Jay Crutcher  
Harbor Freight Tools  
26541 Agoura Road  
Calabasas, CA 91302

NEF-150MR  
17V-638

**Subject:** Tires may have Insufficient Strength/FMVSS 119

Dear Mr. Crutcher:

This letter serves to acknowledge Harbor Freight Tools'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:**

HAUL MASTER/UTILITY TRAILER/2014-2017

**Mfr's Report Date:** October 9, 2017

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 17V-638

**Components:**

TIRES

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 95,237

**Problem Description:**

Harbor Freight Tools (Harbor Freight) is recalling certain 2014-2017 Haul Master Heavy Duty Folding Trailers, Utility Trailers, Super Duty Trailers, Tag-Along Trailers, and Folding Utility Trailers. The tires on these trailers may not be strong enough to support the expected loads. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 119, "New Pneumatic Tires-Other than Passenger Cars."

**Consequence:**

If the tires cannot meet the strength requirements, the tires may fail, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Harbor Freight will notify owners, and stores will provide replacement tires mounted on rims, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin November 6, 2017. Owners may contact Harbor Freight customer service at 1-800-444-3353.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

We have received Harbor Freight's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

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](mailto:michelle.rice@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian".

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