

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL RECALL NO. 17E051

October 2017

Dear CURT Group Distributor:

We are writing to inform you that CURT Group LLC (CURT) is voluntarily recalling certain Class 1 Trailer Hitch Receivers manufactured by CURT. Our records indicate that products covered by this recall may have been shipped to you. Please review this notice carefully.

What Products Are Involved?

This recall involves CURT Class 1 Trailer Hitch Receivers, Part No. 11451, intended for installation on Model Year 2016 - 2018 Mini Cooper Clubman and Countryman vehicles (all trim levels) in the US and Canada. The affected products were manufactured from 9/12/2016 through 7/27/2017.

What is the Problem?

Under certain load conditions, the trailer hitch mounting bolts on these hitch receiver units could begin to pull through the vehicle body structure, causing the hitch to sag. This could lead to a dragging trailer tongue or bike carrier, or to trailer instability. If this condition remains undetected, the hitch may eventually separate from the vehicle, thereby creating a road hazard and increasing the risk of a vehicle crash.

Noise (e.g., clunking, scraping, banging) or inordinate trailer sway may provide advance warning to the driver of this condition.

Please note that we are advising vehicle owners to stop using the hitch until it is replaced under this recall.

What Should You Do?

(a) Product Remaining in Your Inventory: If any of the above-identified products remain in your inventory, you should quarantine them and contact your CURT sales representative for return authorization. CURT will replace existing inventories of recalled product with a newly designed version of this product (Part No. 11522 or 11524, depending upon the model).

IMPORTANT NOTE: Federal law prohibits the sale of the recalled products.

(b) Products You Sold to Other Resellers: If you sold the recalled products to reselling customers (such as installers and retailers), you **must** do the following: (1) forward a copy of this letter to them within five (5) business days of receipt, **and** (2) provide your CURT representative the contact information for the reselling customers to enable CURT to provide



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direct notification to those customers and track recall progress. CURT will replace products that remain in your customers' inventory on the same basis as above. Reselling customers should provide consumer contact information to CURT Technical Support at (800) 798-0813.

(c) Products You Installed or Sold to Consumers: If you sold the recalled product to consumers, you must ***immediately*** provide CURT the contact information for those consumers. CURT will notify them using a NHTSA-approved letter, which will advise the consumers of the issue and instruct them to return their vehicle to a CURT dealer to have the recalled hitch replaced free of charge (parts and labor).

Please contact your CURT sales representative or CURT Technical Support at (800) 798-0813 if you have any questions or to obtain information on replacement units.

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CURT apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause, but it is taking this action in the interest of our customers' personal safety and satisfaction with our products. We appreciate your cooperation and prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

CURT Group LLC