

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

NHTSA Recall No. 17E051

October 2017

Dear CURT Group Hitch Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. CURT Group LLC (CURT) has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Class 1 Trailer Hitch Receivers manufactured by CURT. Sales and distribution records indicate that you may have purchased one of the recalled units. Therefore, please review this letter carefully.

What Products Are Involved?

This recall involves CURT Class 1 Trailer Hitch Receivers (Part No. 11451) intended for installation on 2016 - 2018 Mini Cooper Clubman and Countryman models (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.

What Should You Do?

If you believe you have one of the recalled hitch receivers on your vehicle, please contact CURT Technical Support at 800 798 0813. We will work with you to arrange to have a replacement hitch receiver (with a new design) installed on your vehicle free of charge (parts and labor). ***Please do not load the hitch until you have this repair performed.***

If you purchased one of these units and it has not yet been installed, please return the hitch receiver to the place of purchase for a refund or replacement.



6208 Industrial Drive
Eau Claire, WI 54701
715.831.8713 Phone
715.831.8712 Fax

curtgroup.com

If you have any questions, please contact CURT Technical Support at 800 798 0813. If you are unable to obtain a remedy without charge within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to: Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20590; or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4326 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

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We appreciate your cooperation and prompt attention to this important matter, and apologize for any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

CURT Group LLC