



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 18, 2018

Mr. Christopher Grigorian  
Outside Counsel for  
Horizon Global  
39400 Woodward Avenue  
Suite 130  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

NEF-150MR  
18E-110

**Subject:** Trailer may Separate from Gooseball

Dear Mr. Grigorian:

This letter serves to acknowledge Horizon Global'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:**

REESE/ELITE GOOSEBALL/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** November 29, 2018

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 18E-110

**Components:**

TRAILER HITCHES

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 621

**Problem Description:**

Horizon Global (Horizon) is recalling certain Reese Elite Aftermarket Gooseball kits, both the Hi-Rise Ball kit, part number 19315, and the GM Kit, part number 30891, sold for aftermarket installation on Chevrolet and GMC trucks with the factory OEM underbed package. These parts are the connector used in a gooseneck hitch to connect the towing vehicle's underbed to a trailer. The load dynamics of the underbed in these vehicles may potentially result in the trailer separating from the gooseball.

**Consequence:**

If the trailer separates from the gooseball and the trailer is not using safety chains, the trailer could separate from the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Horizon will work with dealers to notify owners, and provide reimbursement for the parts purchased. The recall is expected to begin January 14, 2019. Customers may contact Horizon customer service number at 1-800-234-6992.

**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).

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

Sincerely,



Kareem Habib  
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement