

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18E-090

Manufacturer Name : Dexter Axle Company

Submission Date : SEP 17, 2018

NHTSA Recall No. : 18E-090

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Dexter Axle Company

Number of potentially involved : 3,463

Address : 2900 INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY EAST
PO BOX 250 ELKHART IN 46516

Estimated percentage with defect : 90 %

Company phone : 574-295-7888

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : Dexter

Model : #10, #10F, and #11

Part No. : Torsion Trailer Axle

Size : 3,500;4,000;5,200 lb capacity

Function : Trailer Axles

Descriptive Information :

- Many axles in this population have brake mounting flanges that are oriented (clocked) incorrectly. This causes the brake to be mounted on the axle in the wrong orientation.
- The recalled population was determined starting with the first day of production of these three axle models in the plant that produced the defect and ending after the corrective action was implemented and verified to be implemented and working correctly.
- There are 932, #10 axles; 710, #10F axles, and 1817, #11 axles. All were made between 6/28/18 and 8/30/18. These are all trailer torsion axles with the torsion arms oriented at 22.5 degrees down.

Production Dates : JUN 28, 2018 - AUG 30, 2018

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The brake mounting flange is incorrectly oriented (clocked) on the axles in question. The brake (mounted on the flange) is therefore also incorrectly oriented.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The brake is not designed to be incorrectly oriented. This can occasionally lead to the brake failing prematurely. Brake failures due to this incorrect orientation only occur on a small percentage.

Description of the Cause : The brake flanges were oriented incorrectly during the axle assembly and welding process.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : There is often no warning which proceeds the brake failure.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

An increased number of brake failures were occurring at one customer. An investigation took place. It was determined that the cause was brakes being mounted in an improper orientation, due to the brake mounting flanges being welded to the axles in improper orientation. They are incorrectly "clocked".

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : If the defect is found on a axle. The entire axle must be replaced. If the hubs and / or brakes are in proper working condition, it is possible that they may be reused on the re-installation.
All of this will be done at no cost to the trailer manufacturers and / or customers.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The correct #10, #10f, and #11 axles, with the torsion arm oriented at 22.5 degrees down, have the brake mounting flanges attached (welded) to the axles such that when the brake is mount on these flanges, and the trailer is loaded, the brake magnets with be located within approximately 10 degrees of bottom dead center.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Proper tooling and check fixturing was installed in the facility. Training was done on all shifts. Inspections were done to verify that the flanges were being mounted on the axles properly. Additional inspections and layered audits are currently in place, as well.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : We will submit the recall letter for NHTSA review by Wednesday, 9/12/18. Contact has already been made with the trailer plant affected

by this recall. Trailers have been remedied. We will notify the manufacturers and work with them as the notify dealers and owners.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : Forest River

Address : 66135 SR 13
Millersburg IN 46543

Country : US

Company Phone : 5746423036

Name : Impact Trailers

Address : 4607 Wyland Drive
Elkhart IN 46516

Country : US

Company Phone : 5748485900

* NR - Not Reported