

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18V-182

Manufacturer Name : Conel, LLC dba McElrath Trailers

Submission Date : MAY 29, 2018

NHTSA Recall No. : 18V-182

Manufacturer Recall No. : VMK000501



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Conel, LLC dba McElrath Trailers

Address : 3375 Chesnee Hwy

Chesnee SC 29323

Company phone : 814-2220

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 272

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2013-2018 McElrath 818I

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on production and sales information of 818I trailers for McLaughlin vacuum systems.

Production Dates : JAN 01, 2013 - MAR 15, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1M9FE1225CS284845 End : 1M9FE1225HS284884 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2017-2018 McElrath VX50-800

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on production and sales information of VX50-800 trailers for McLaughlin vacuum systems.

Production Dates : MAR 08, 2017 - MAR 15, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1M9FE1225HS284982 End : 1M9FE1223HS284012 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2017-2018 McElrath VX30-800

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on production and sales information of VX30-800 trailers for McLaughlin vacuum systems.

Production Dates : APR 03, 2017 - MAR 15, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1M9FE122XHS284993 End : 1M9FE1221HS284882 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2017-2018 McElrath VX50-800LT

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on production and sales information of VX50-800LT trailers for McLaughlin vacuum systems.

Production Dates : MAR 08, 2017 - MAR 15, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1M9FE1223HS284964 End : 1M9FE1225HS284917 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 2017-2018 McElrath VX30-800LT

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on production and sales information of VX30-800LT trailers for McLaughlin vacuum systems.

Production Dates : MAR 08, 2017 - MAR 15, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1M9FE1228HS284619 End : 1M9FE1224HS284701 ☒ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The outer portion of the trailer neck is W8 x 13. The inner portion of the neck is C6 x 8.2. The two are joined together with a single vertical weld along the web of the W8 and the outer web of the C6. In the event extreme stress is applied to the trailer frame this weld can fail.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Failure of this weld in the neck portion of this trailer could result in instability of the trailer causing a loss of control resulting in injury or death.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

2018-FEB-9 McLaughlin Service/Warranty Manager alerted Vermeer Product Safety Engineers and Legal dept. of a weld failure on VIN# 1M9FE122XFS284487 Model 818I and sent pictures of the failure after notification.

2018-FEB-14 McLaughlin Service/Warranty Manager alerted Vermeer Product Safety Engineers and Legal personnel of similar weld failures on an 818I VIN#1M9FE1220DS284379 and sent pictures of those failures after notification. The email for 1M9FE122XFS284487 also contained photos of the McElrath authorized repair made by Iron Bear

2018-FEB-15 McLaughlin Engineering Manager, Service Manager, General Manager and Vermeer Product Safety Engineers and Legal dept. personnel met to discuss next action to inspect more trailers and send documentation

2018-FEB-19 McLaughlin General Manager met with Vermeer Legal and Product Safety personnel for more discussion around design, weld issues and potential fix.

2018-FEB-22 McLaughlin Service/Warranty Manager sent photos of other inspected machines to Vermeer Product Safety personnel. Those photos showed no failures, however they did set up a meeting for further weld review.

2018-FEB-28 Vermeer Weld Engineering and Product Safety Engineers conducted weld review meeting and decided to draft weld instructions in the event they might be needed after reviewing all compiled information.

2018-MAR-7 Weld Instructions sent from Vermeer Weld Engineer to Product Safety for review, Product Safety planned a conference call follow-up with McLaughlin personnel.

2018-MAR-14 McLaughlin Engineering Manager, Service Manager, General Manager, Vermeer Product Safety Engineer and Weld Engineer had a conference call to discuss that with all considerations, it was determined necessary to file a defect report with NHTSA, begin a safety recall and start plans to repair all affected units.

2018-MAR-15 Conference call between McLaughlin, Vermeer Product Safety and McElrath personnel to discuss specifics of the recall in order to file the defect report.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Dealers will be provided parts and instructions to update trailers. Dealers will be reimbursed for parts and 3 hours labor for installation of kit.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy now has two plates (P/N 8096355) welded to strengthen trailer and ensure no future failures.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The production units have the plates added at the factory to ensure trailer failure will not occur. The production line began this fix immediately after the remedy was approved, the week of March 19, 2018.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer notification was sent out 5/4/18 by email. Owner notification was sent out 5/18/18 by certified/registered mail.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 04, 2018 - MAY 04, 2018

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 18, 2018 - MAY 18, 2018

* NR - Not Reported