



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 16, 2019

Mr. Timothy Meckstroth
Vice President of Engineering
Dexter Axle Company
2900 Industrial Parkway East
P.O. Box 250
Elkhart, IN 46515

NEF-150MR
19E-023

Subject: Insufficient Grease on Bearings may cause Failure

Dear Mr. Meckstroth:

This letter serves to acknowledge Dexter Axle Company'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:

DEXTER/13 TRAILER AXLE/9999
DEXTER/14 TRAILER AXLE/9999

Mfr's Report Date: March 7, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19E-023

Components:

SUSPENSION: MULTIPLE AXLE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 882

Problem Description:

Dexter Axle Company (Dexter Axle) is recalling certain #13, #13D, #13G, #13T, #14, and #14T axles. The axles may lack the proper amount of grease on the inner and outer bearings in the hubs.

Consequence:

The ungreased axle bearings may result in a wheel locking up, affecting the vehicle handling and increasing the risk of crash.

Remedy:

Dexter has notified the trailer manufacturers that purchased the axles, and dealers will properly grease and reinstall the components or replace the components as necessary, free of charge. The recall began March 22, 2019. Owners may contact Dexter Axle customer service at 1-574-295-7888.

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.

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 Dexter Axle'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