



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 17, 2019

Ms. Kim Miller
QC Administrator
Mertz Manufacturing, LLC
1701 N Waverly St
PO Box 150
Ponca City, OK 74601

NEF-150MR
19V-195

Subject: Air Brake Circuit Fitting Incorrect/FMVSS 121

Dear Ms. Miller:

This letter serves to acknowledge Mertz Manufacturing, LLC'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:

MERTZ/CUSTOM TRAILER/2008-2018

Mfr's Report Date: March 11, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19V-195

Components:

PARKING BRAKE:CONVENTIONAL:AIR
SERVICE BRAKES, AIR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 475

Problem Description:

Mertz Manufacturing, LLC is recalling certain 2008-2018 custom trailers. Plastic junction connections may have been installed in the air brake circuits. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 121, "Air Brake Systems."

Consequence:

If a plastic connector fails, a loss of service brakes will occur or the emergency brakes will activate unexpectedly. Either condition may increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Mertz has notified owners and will provide metal brake line connections to replace the plastic connections. The recall began March, 29, 2019. Owners may contact Mertz customer service at 1-580-767-8404. Mertz's number for this recall is M18-098.

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 of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall 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).

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kareem Habib". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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