

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 19V-062

**Manufacturer Name :** Proterra Inc.**Submission Date :** NOV 04, 2019**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19V-062**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Proterra Inc.

Address : 1815 Rollins Road  
Burlingame CA 94010

Company phone : 4380000

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 310

Estimated percentage with defect : 90 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2018 Proterra Catalyst 40 &amp; Catalyst 35

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM &amp; HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Proterra Catalyst buses are equipped with a 4 point ride height system from Hadley. Through testing, Proterra determined that the system could induce diagonal load imbalance resulting in an overload condition on one tire.

Production Dates : JAN 01, 2015 - DEC 31, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

**Description of the Defect :** The 4 point ride height control system on the Catalyst bus under certain conditions can introduce a diagonal airbag pressure differential between the curb side front and the street side rear airbags located in the ride height system, and the street side front and the curb side rear airbags in the ride height system. This pressure differential can result in overloading one of the front tires by an unknown amount. There are no reported tire failures on Catalyst buses.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** The load imbalance on the front tires when this differential in pressure occurs in the ride height system may increase the risk of a blown tire.

**Description of the Cause :** unknown at this time

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** The bus driver may notice differences in ride quality. The front corner with higher pressure may provide more pronounced impacts over bumps or holes in the road surface, while the opposite corner will exhibit less pronounced impact over the same road surface. The softer corner may exhibit a little more body

roll when the driver is making a turn away from that corner.

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Hadley  
Address : 2851 Prairie St SW #A  
Grandville MICHIGAN 49418  
Country : United States

## Chronology :

In August 2018, Proterra engineering began work on tests related to customer requirements on the Catalyst bus, and in the course of that testing discovered the potential for the diagonal airbag pressure differential in the 4 point ride height system. Throughout the fall Proterra worked with the supplier of the ride height system and gathered additional data, including from tire technicians. In December, a bus exhibited a significant imbalance in diagonal airbag pressure in the field. Proterra's safety committee reviewed the data on January 22, 2019 and determined that the condition presented a safety defect.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Without charge to the customer, Proterra will convert the current 4 point ride height system into a 3 point system by pneumatically connecting the front airbags to insure they always have the same pressure. This remedy requires a simple airline change, an update to the firmware of the Hadley ride controller and an update to the vehicle control software.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The ride height system will be a 3 point system instead of a 4 point system.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The same remedy will apply to vehicles in production. All vehicles produced after January 22, 2019 will include the modifications to the ride height system.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : There are no dealers. Customers will be notified directly.  
Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR  
Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 11, 2019 - MAR 29, 2019

\* NR - Not Reported