NHTSA SAFETY RECALL NUMBER 19V-442

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**IMPORTANT**

**SAFETY**

**RECALL**

**First Notice**

Safety Enhancement Kit

(VVK00-0001)

Sample

Owner

Letter

**Model: «Model»**

This notice applies to your vehicle,

**Serial No: «VIN»**

August 8, 2019

### VIA USPS CERTIFIED/REGISTERED MAIL

Dear «MODEL» Owner:

*This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.*

VacTron Equipment LLC has decided that a defect, that relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain model year 2015-2019 VacTron LP873SDT/LPSDT Heavy.

**ON-HIGHWAY SAFETY COMPONENT ENHANCEMENTS**

As you know, Vermeer recently acquired Vac-Tron Equipment, LLC. As part of the acquisition, Vermeer assisted Vac-Tron in reevaluating the design of Model LP873SDT/LPSDT heavy vacuum excavator. The design reevaluation identified required upgrades to the on-highway safety components, including adding or changing marker lights, reflectors, conspicuity tape and adding an extension to the rear of the chassis. These upgrades are required by Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) governmental regulation 108 and 224 for the United States, Canada and Mexico.

**DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY POSSIBLE**

When towing the vacuum excavator on public roadways, **death or serious injury** may result:

* If another vehicle strikes the rear of the vacuum excavator causing the other vehicle to travel under the rear of the vacuum excavator. To reduce the potential of this occurring, a rear chassis extension is being added.
* If driver(s) of other vehicle(s) do not see the vacuum excavator at night or during limited sunlight and strike the vacuum excavator. To reduce the potential of this occurring, additional marking lights, reflectors and conspicuity tape are being added.

Property or equipment damage may also occur.

**IMMEDIATE MACHINE MODIFICATIONS REQUIRED**

VVK00-0001 has been created to provide the necessary parts and instructions to install marker lights, reflectors, conspicuity tape and a lower chassis extension on the rear of the machine. **This kit must be installed** **as soon as possible.**

As stated above a new rear extension will be added to the vacuum excavators. Care has been given in the design of this new trailer extension to ensure that it does not interfere with the operation of the opening the door before dumping. Below is an excerpt from the vacuum excavator’s Operator’s Manual which provides steps for proper operation. When discussing this upgrade with your customer, please ensure that they understand the proper operation, so the door does not strike the trailer extension.



Please be reminded that it is a violation of Federal law for you to sell or lease the machines covered by this notification until this recall has been performed on these machines. Substantial civil penalties apply to violations of this law.

**Please contact** your authorized, independent **Vermeer dealer** immediately to arrange a mutually acceptable time and location to install VVK00-0001 **at no cost** to you for labor or materials. The installation of this kit is estimated at 4 hours of labor. If the Vermeer dealer travels to the unit to install the kit, costs may be incurred by the owner. **You must have your machine upgraded for these safety features**.

**Contact your local Vermeer Dealer:** «Service\_Dealer\_Name»

«Serv\_Dealer\_Add1» «Serv\_Dealer\_Add2»

«Serv\_Dealer\_City» «Serv\_Dealer\_St» «Serv\_Dealer\_Zip»

«Serv\_Dealer\_Country»

**Telephone:** «Serv\_Dealer\_Phone»

According to our records, you currently own a VacTron LP873SDT/LPSDT heavy vacuum excavator. The Model and Serial Number of the LP873SDT/LPSDT heavy is shown at the top right of this letter. If you no longer own this unit, please notify VacTron by notifying Vermeer Corporation’s Product Safety Department at:

 Toll Free: 800-829-0051, extension 7060

 Telephone: 641-621-7060

 E-mail: productsafety@vermeer.com

If possible, please provide the name and address of the new owner.

We regret any inconvenience that these corrective measures may cause you. The required work is for the safety of the towing vehicle driver and occupants as well as others traveling on public roadways or in the immediate area while being towed. We hope that you agree that the safety benefits surpass the inconvenience.

Very truly yours,

#### VACTRON EQUIPMENT LLC

*Federal regulations require that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten (10) days.*

If the authorized dealer has failed or is unable to remedy the defect without charge and within a reasonable time, contact VacTron through Vermeer Product Safety by email at productsafety@vermeer.com or by calling 800-829-0051 or 641-621-7060. You may also submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20590 or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to http://www.safercar.gov