



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 24, 2020

Mr. Brock Vander Veen  
Watson & Chalin Manufacturing, Inc.  
500 Park Boulevard, Suite 1010  
Itasca, IL 60143-1285

NEF-150KL  
20E-055

**Subject:** Lower Rear Pivot Cap Screws may be too Short

Dear Mr. Vander Veen:

This letter serves to acknowledge Watson & Chalin Manufacturing, Inc.'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:**

WATSON & CHALIN/SL2065/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** August 18, 2020

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 20E-055

**Components:**

SUSPENSION: MULTIPLE AXLE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,853

**Problem Description:**

Watson & Chalin Manufacturing, Inc. (W & C) is recalling certain SL2065 steerable lift axle suspension systems with a 20,000lb capacity. The lower rear pivot cap screws may not be long enough to sufficiently engage the locking feature of the corresponding nuts.

**Consequence:**

The short screws can cause the hardware to separate from the suspension system and become road hazards, increasing the risk of a crash and/or injury.

**Remedy:**

W & C will notify the affected vehicle manufacturers and the aftermarket equipment installers that purchased the suspensions. The suspensions will need to be inspected and the lower rear pivot fasteners replaced, as necessary, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a schedule for recall notification. Owners may contact W & C customer service at 1-972-838-1266. W & C's number for this recall is W&C2020-01.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please ensure the following requirements are met:

Your company must supply the estimated date(s) for which it will notify dealers and/or distributors regarding this safety recall. If your company subsequently becomes aware that either the beginning or the completion dates reported to the agency for any of the notifications will be delayed by more than two weeks, your company shall promptly advise the agency of the delay and the reasons therefor, and furnish a revised estimate. If your company does not have dealers or distributors, please state so in the 573 (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(ii)).

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Your company must supply the estimated date(s) for which it will notify owners regarding this safety recall. Please be reminded that all owners must be notified of the safety risk associated with this filing within 60 days of the 573 being submitted. If the remedy is not available at that time, mail the interim notice, following it with a second notice once the remedy becomes available. If your company subsequently becomes aware that either the beginning or the completion dates reported to the agency for any of the notifications will be delayed by more than two weeks, your company shall promptly advise the agency of the delay and the reasons therefor, and furnish a revised estimate. If there are no owners involved in this recall, please state so in the 573 (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(ii)).

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), 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).

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 the manufacturer'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 Kristin Lepper who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, or by email at kristin.lepper@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Joshua Neff  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement