



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 9, 2020

Mr. Brian Polgrean
Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.
One Industrial Complex
Nesquehoning, PA 18240

NEF-150MR
20V-006

Subject: Swing Drives Not Properly Lubricated

Dear Mr. Polgrean:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.'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:

KME/FIRESTIX/2012-2015, 2017

Mfr's Report Date: January 8, 2020

NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-006

Components:

EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 6

Problem Description:

Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp. (KME) is recalling one 2017 and certain 2012-2015 Emergency Response KME 55 FT Firestix Aerial Devices. The swing drives may not contain lubricating oil, which can cause the internal gears to become damaged and cause seizing.

Consequence:

If the swing drive's internal gears become damaged or start seizing, uncontrolled movement of the ladder can occur, increasing the risk of an injury.

Remedy:

KME will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the swing drives and rebuild them if they do not contain the lubricating oil, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin February 24, 2020. Owners may contact KME customer service at 1-800-235-3928.

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:

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 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,



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