

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20E-031

Manufacturer Name : LiquidSpring LLC

Submission Date : MAY 13, 2020

NHTSA Recall No. : 20E-031

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : LiquidSpring LLC

Address : 4899 E 400 South

Lafayette IN 47905

Company phone : 4747816

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 397

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : CLASS Suspension System

Model : RAM 4500/5500

Part No. : DS135RS3A, 3AF, 3-DM

Size : NR

Function : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on the suspension kit serial numbers and conversion kits built and sold within the identified production dates. The recall affects all 2019+MY suspension kits and converted 2014-2018 MY converted suspension kits installed on 2019+ MY RAM 4500/5500 cab chassis.

Suspension kits built for and installed on 2014-2018 MY RAM 4500/5500 cab chassis are not affected by the recall because the OEM rear brake caliper flexible line has sufficient length to provide clearance with suspension component(s). 2019+MY RAM 4500/5500 cab chassis OEM rear brake caliper flexible line is shorter than 2014-2018 MY RAM 4500/5500 cab chassis, thus caused potential contact with suspension component(s).

Production Dates : MAY 01, 2018 - APR 22, 2020

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The rear brake caliper flexible line may have been routed such that it may be causing rear brake caliper flexible line wear due to contact with a suspension component(s).

FMVSS 1 : 105 - Hydraulic and electric brake systems

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The consequence of the defect can be rear brake caliper flexible line wear

Description of the Safety Risk : and/or subsequent brake fluid leakage which may result in partial or complete loss of rear service brakes which could cause damage to the chassis and/or other vehicles, and possibly result in a crash.

Description of the Cause : The cause of the defect is insufficient length of the rear brake caliper flexible line and/or suspension component configuration such that the rear brake caliper flexible line can be routed to not contact any suspension component(s).

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The defect may be detected by the vehicle operator by abnormal brake pedal feedback, abnormal stopping ability, or leakage of brake fluid at the rear brake caliper flexible line wear point. The defect may be detected by the installer by observing contact between the rear brake caliper flexible line and suspension component(s).

Involved Components :

Component Name : Brake Line

Component Description : Rear Brake Caliper Flexible Line

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : LiquidSpring LLC

Address : 4899 E 400 South
Lafayette INDIANA 47905

Country : United States

Chronology :

1st Reported Instance – December 12, 2019 - In the case of the 1st reported instance, a customer installing a RAM 4500/5000 rear suspension kit contacted LiquidSpring Customer Service to report contact between the driver side (LH) rear brake caliper flexible line and the lower axle clamp suspension component. Review of customer submitted pictures confirmed contact. Customer reworked the LH rear brake caliper flexible line routing to eliminate contact issue. There had been no other previously reported contact between the rear brake caliper flexible line and suspension component(s) from installers, dealers, or end users of the affected product.

February 10, 2020 - LiquidSpring contacted RAM dealer to obtain rear brake caliper flexible line P/N's for MY 2018, 2019, and 2020 RAM 4500/5500 cab chassis. RAM dealer provided part number information for the rear brake caliper flexible line indicated that the P/N for MY 2019 and 2020 was the same but different from MY

2018. Because physical information such as length of the line was not available for comparative purposes, LiquidSpring ordered both rear brake caliper flexible lines for MY 2018 and 2019/20. Only MY 2018 part was received, MY 2019/20 was backordered with delivery date indeterminate.

February 14, 2020 - LiquidSpring began effort to develop banjo manifold block to install between the rear brake caliper and the rear brake caliper flexible line to re-orient the brake line banjo mount and provide an effective longer line length for clearance with the lower axle clamp suspension component.

March 16, 2020 - LiquidSpring began effort to modify the lower axle clamp suspension component to provide clearance for the rear brake caliper flexible line without utilizing banjo manifold block.

March 24, 2020

Trial installation of the developed banjo manifold block between the rear brake caliper and the rear brake caliper flexible line along with re-orientation of the brake line banjo mount.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : A kit, P/N 11849, has been generated consisting of 2 OEM banjo bolts, 8 crush washers, 2 banjo blocks, and installation instructions to install the banjo blocks on each rear caliper and modify the rear brake caliper flexible line mounting. A kit, P/N 11871, has been generated with OEM replacement rear brake caliper flexible lines and hardware required to replace worn rear brake caliper flexible lines as needed. The company plans to cover all expenses related to the installation of the banjo blocks and/or replacement of worn rear brake caliper flexible lines.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The presence of the banjo blocks installed between the rear brake caliper and the rear brake caliper flexible line distinguishes vehicles that do or don't have the remedy completed.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The on-going production remedy for the rear brake caliper flexible line contact issue will be the modified lower axle clamp suspension component that provides clearance without utilizing the banjo manifold block. This change was implemented on all suspension kits shipped after April 22, 2020.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule :

- Send Manufacturer/Dealer letter to all customers of affected (sold) units to solicit dealer/end user contact information
- Follow-up contact with all customers to ensure dealer/end user contact information is made available
- Mail formal Safety Recall Notice to all dealer/end users
- Follow-up contact with dealers/end users regarding inspection of vehicles and scheduling replacement of brackets
- Assist dealers/end users with making arrangements with repair facility to have brackets replaced

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 18, 2020 - MAY 26, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUN 08, 2020 - JUL 06, 2020

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : Braun Northwest

Address : P.O. Box 1204
Chehalis WA 98532

Country : US

Company Phone : 3605573209

Name : Demers Ambulance Manufacturer

Address : 28 Rue Richelieu
Beloeil QJ3G 4N5

Country : CA

Company Phone : 4504674683

Name : ETR, LLC

Address : 212 Hickman Drive
Sanford FL 32771

Country : US

Company Phone : 4073396737

Name : Excellance

Address : 453 Lanier Road
Madison AL 35758

Country : US

Company Phone : 2567729321

Name : Fesco Emergency Sales

Address : 7010 Troy Hill Drive
Elkridge MD 21075

Country : US

Company Phone : 4103795353

Name : Northwestern Emergency Vehicles

Address : P.O. Box 790
Jefferson NC 28640

Country : US

Company Phone : 3362468506

Name : PL Custom Emergency Vehicles
Address : 2201 Atlantic Ave.
Manasquan NJ 08736
Country : US
Company Phone : 7322231411

Name : Select Tech
Address : 250 N. Thompson Street
Shelbyville TN 45014
Country : US
Company Phone : 9316848964

Name : Utility Bodywerks
Address : 21912 Protecta Drive
Elkhart IN 46516
Country : US
Company Phone : 5745228422

Name : American Emergency Vehicles
Address : 165 American Way
Jeffereson NC 28640
Country : US
Company Phone : 3368468166

Name : Arrow Manufacturing Inc.
Address : P.O. Box 349
Rock Rapids IA 51246
Country : US
Company Phone : 7124723157

Name : Braun Industries
Address : 1170 Production Drive
Van Wert OH 45891
Country : US
Company Phone : 4192327046

Name : Custom Truck & Body Works
Address : P.O. Box 718
Woodbury GA 30293
Country : US
Company Phone : 7066554300

Name : Firetrucks Unlimited
Address : 1175 Center Point Dr
Henderson NV 89074
Country : US
Company Phone : 7025583352

Name : Frazer Ltd.
Address : 7219 Rampart Street
Houston TX 77081
Country : US
Company Phone : 7137725511

Name : Horton Emergency Vehicles
Address : 3800 McDowell Road
Grove City OH 43123
Country : US
Company Phone : 6143052332

Name : Life Line Emergency Vehicles
Address : 1 Life Line Drive
Sumner IA 50674
Country : US
Company Phone : 5635783317

Name : Olathe Ford
Address : 1845 E. Santa Fe
Olathe KS 66062
Country : US
Company Phone : 9137824460

Name : Osage Industries
Address : P.O. Box. 718
Linn MO 65051
Country : US
Company Phone : 5738973634

Name : Precision Rescue Vehicles
Address : 33 Loop Road
Arden NC 28704
Country : US
Company Phone : 3364462448

Name : Professional Mabulance
Address : 309 FM 3381
Comanche TX 76442
Country : US
Company Phone : 3253562233

Name : REV Ambulance Group
Address : P.O. Box 677339
Orlando FL 32867
Country : US
Company Phone : 4076777777

Name : Southeastern Specialty Vehicles
Address : P.O. Box 159
Kittrell NC 27544
Country : US
Company Phone : 9194355911

Name : Stonebrooke Equipment, Inc
Address : 14311 Ewing Ave. South
Burnsville MN 55306
Country : US
Company Phone : 9522244430

Name : TMA Operations
Address : 3704 Medallion Place
Newport AR 72112
Country : US
Company Phone : 8705239560

* NR - Not Reported