

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 20E-044

**Manufacturer Name :** Tenneco Automotive

**Submission Date :** AUG 04, 2020

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20E-044

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR



### Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** Tenneco Automotive

**Address :** 500 North Field Drive

Lake Forest IL 60045

**Company phone :** 847-482-5003

### Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 996

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 1 %

### Equipment Information :

**Brand / Trade 1 :** Clevite-Pullman

**Model :** FS32B916400AFH

**Part No. :** FS32B916400AFH

**Size :** NR

**Function :** Torque Rod

**Descriptive Information :** This recall involves certain Clevite control rods manufactured by The Pullman Company (a wholly owned subsidiary of Tenneco) intended for aftermarket (replacement) installation on Gillig low floor buses. This recall and the recall scope are based upon Gillig's decision to conduct a recall of (i) Gillig buses equipped with this part (see Recall No. 20V342) and (ii) replacement parts sold through the Gillig service channel (see Recall No. 20E035).

The "Estimated percentage of involved with defect" figure is less than 0.1%, based upon failures observed to date over the population of product shipped.

**Production Dates :** MAR 01, 2018 - MAY 29, 2020

### Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** According to Gillig, "the lower rear suspension control rods of certain low floor buses may experience fatigue failure." See Recall No. 20V342 and 20E035. Tenneco believes any fatigue failure susceptibility is the result of (i) performance limitations in the Gillig-approved design specifications for this part and/or (ii) vehicle-related characteristics (e.g., bus configurations, one off-events, vehicle mileage, and other external factors) rather than a component-level manufacturing defect.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** According to Gillig, “[i]f a rear suspension control rod fails, this may affect the alignment of the rear axle and lead to reduced handling and stability of the bus, increasing the risk of a crash.” See Recall No. 20V342 and 20E035.

**Description of the Cause :** Tenneco believes any fatigue failure susceptibility is the result of (i) performance limitations in the Gillig-approved design specifications for this part and/or (ii) vehicle-related characteristics (e.g., bus configurations, one-off events, vehicle mileage, and other external factors) rather than a component-level manufacturing defect.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** None

## Involved Components :

**Component Name :** NR

**Component Description :** NR

**Component Part Number :** NR

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

**Name :** NR

**Address :** NR

NR

**Country :** NR

## Chronology :

April – May, 2020: Tenneco, SAF Holland, and Gillig jointly investigated fatigue failures in the subject control arm, which is contained in an SAF Holland suspension assembly installed in certain Gillig low floor buses.

June 18, 2020: Tenneco received a copy of Gillig’s June 10, 2020 Defect Information Report in Recall No. 20V342, in which Gillig states “the lower rear suspension control rods of certain low floor buses may experience fatigue failure” and “[i]f a rear suspension control rod fails, this may affect the alignment of the rear axle and lead to reduced handling and stability of the bus, increasing the risk of a crash.”

June 23, 2020: Tenneco believes any fatigue failure susceptibility is the result of (i) performance limitations in the Gillig-approved design specifications for this part and/or (ii) vehicle-related characteristics (e.g., bus configurations, one-off events, vehicle mileage, and other external factors) rather than a component-level

manufacturing defect. However, based upon Gillig's decision that these parts may be susceptible to fatigue failure in the vehicle applications identified in Recall 20V342, Tenneco's Global Warranty Committee decided to initiate a voluntary recall of the parts that Tenneco sells through independent aftermarket channels (outside the Gillig OE and service channel).

July 31, 2020: Tenneco subsequently determined that the redesigned part did not begin shipping to aftermarket customers until approximately May 29, 2020. This report has therefore been revised to reflect the correct date, which increases the recall population to 996 parts.

Tenneco is not aware of any reports of accidents or injuries involving the subject parts.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Tenneco will notify customers who purchased this product through the independent aftermarket and provide a new control rod (Part No. FS32B949190AFH) at no cost.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The replacement control rod (Part No. FS32B949190AFH) has different bushing stiffness characteristics.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The recalled control rods were last shipped on or about 2/10/20. Production of redesigned product began on or about 3/10/20. Update as of July 31, 2020: The redesigned product was shipped to aftermarket customers beginning on or around May 29, 2020.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Tenneco will notify its direct customers of this recall (per the Planned Dealer Notification schedule) and will work with them to identify and notify affected owners. Timing of owner notification is dependent upon receiving owner information from our direct customers.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 31, 2020 - JUL 31, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUL 31, 2020 - AUG 21, 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 : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

\* NR - Not Reported