

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20V-192

Manufacturer Name : Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.

Submission Date : APR 02, 2020

NHTSA Recall No. : 20V-192

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.

Address : One Industrial Complex
Nesquehoning PA 18240

Company phone : 8002353926

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 678

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2016-2020 KME Predator Custom Cab/Chassis

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : -The population was determined using build records.
-Vehicles included in this recall had the jumper studs mounted to a bracket that was attached to the battery mounting tray and the jumper stud connection was sprayed with an oil-based battery corrosion preventative. Vehicles not included in the recall had the jumper studs sprayed with a silicone or tar based coating which not only prevented corrosion, but provided a seal to prevent the buildup of any conductive material.
-2016 KME Predator: 19
-2017 KME Predator: 31
-2018 KME Predator: 22
-2019 KME Predator: 32
-2020 KME Predator: 17

Production Dates : JAN 01, 2016 - FEB 29, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2016-2020 KME Predator Panther Custom Cab/Chassis

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : -The population was determined using build records.
-Vehicles included in this recall had the jumper studs mounted to a bracket that was attached to the battery mounting tray and the jumper stud connection was sprayed with an oil-based battery corrosion preventative. Vehicles not included in the recall had the jumper studs sprayed with a silicone or tar based coating which not only prevented corrosion, but provided a seal to prevent the buildup of any conductive material.
-2016 KME Predator Panther: 28
-2017 KME Predator Panther: 92
-2018 KME Predator Panther: 38
-2019 KME Predator Panther: 40
-2020 KME Predator Panther: 27

Production Dates : JAN 01, 2016 - FEB 29, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2016-2020 KME Predator Severe Service Custom Cab/Chassis

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : -The population was determined using build records.
-Vehicles included in this recall had the jumper studs mounted to a bracket that was attached to the battery mounting tray and the jumper stud connection was sprayed with an oil-based battery corrosion preventative. Vehicles not included in the recall had the jumper studs sprayed with a silicone or tar based coating which not only prevented corrosion, but provided a seal to prevent the buildup of any conductive material.
-2016 KME Predator Severe Service: 27
-2017 KME Predator Severe Service: 103
-2018 KME Predator Severe Service: 84
-2019 KME Predator Severe Service: 55
-2020 KME Predator Severe Service: 60

Production Dates : JAN 01, 2016 - FEB 29, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2016-2019 KME Commercial Cab/Chassis
 Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES
 Body Style : OTHER
 Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : -The population was determined using build records.
 -Vehicles included in this recall had the jumper studs mounted to a bracket that was attached to the battery mounting tray and the jumper stud connection was sprayed with an oil-based battery corrosion preventative. Vehicles not included in the recall had the jumper studs sprayed with a silicone or tar based coating which not only prevented corrosion, but provided a seal to prevent the buildup of any conductive material.
 -2016 KME Commercial : 1
 -2019 KME Commercial : 2

Production Dates : MAY 28, 2016 - MAR 08, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The wire terminals for external battery studs has a small gap between the power stud connection and the ground. If the gap is covered by road salt or another conducting medium, an electric arc may occur.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : An electric arc may occur near the battery box, potentially draining the battery, preventing the vehicle from performing its mission.

Description of the Cause : There is a small gap between the positive jumper stud and the retaining ring for the stud that may become covered with road salt or corrosion byproducts. If the corrosion preventative is lacking by either its removal or insufficient application and corrosion is allowed to accumulate, a short circuit may occur between the stud and the retaining ring.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Build-up of corrosion on the positive jumper stud and connections can be seen.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Corrosion Preventative

Component Description : CORROSION PREVENTATIVE 12.25OZ Red Spray

Component Part Number : 060660V002

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

In March 2019, KME received reports of short circuits occurring in the battery jumper stud connections of a 2017, a 2018, and a 2019 model year truck. KME began an investigation but could not determine a cause for the incidents. KME received another report of a short circuit incident in February 2020. Further investigation determined that the short circuit is being caused by a buildup of road salts or corrosion connecting the jumper stud terminal and the mounting plate on vehicles where the corrosion preventative was no longer effective. On March 31, 2020 it was determined that a voluntary recall was required.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : KME or its Dealers will clean the jumper studs, connection surfaces, and connections. The connection surfaces and wire terminals will then be sealed with a silicone electrical sealant. If the owner already incurred costs to remedy this issue, they will be directed in the notification letter to contact KME for reimbursement.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The electrical sealant used in the remedy is a non-flowing cure adhesive that has to be removed mechanically. The recalled corrosion preventative is an oil-based liquid that may be degraded by prolonged exposure to road spray or be inadvertently removed by incidental contact, pressure washers, etc.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Starting in March 2020, the silicone electrical sealant is being used in production in place of the oil-based battery corrosion preventative spray.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : -Dealer notification between 05/11/2020 and 05/15/2020

-Owner notification between 05/18/2020 and 05/22/2020

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 11, 2020 - MAY 15, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 18, 2020 - MAY 22, 2020

* NR - Not Reported