



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 22, 2021

Mr. Pete Gingerich  
Aluminum Trailer Company (ATC)  
306 S. Nappanee Street  
Nappanee, IN 46550-0396

NEF-107MR  
21V-171

**Subject:** Safety Chains Could Break

Dear Mr. Gingerich:

This letter serves to acknowledge Aluminum Trailer Company (ATC) '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:**

ATC ARV/GAMECHANGER/2018-2021  
ATC ARV/PRO BUMPER PULL/2018-2021

**Mfr's Report Date:** March 12, 2021

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 21V-171

**Components:**

EQUIPMENT:RECREATIONAL VEHICLE/TRAILER  
TRAILER HITCHES

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 233

**Problem Description:**

Aluminum Trailer Company (ATC) is recalling certain 2018-2021 ARV Gamechanger, and ARV Pro Bumper Pull trailers equipped with tandem 6,000 lb axles. The safety chains installed are rated at 11,700 lbs, which is insufficient for the trailer.

**Consequence:**

The safety chains could break if the trailer disconnects from the tow vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

The remedy is currently under development, and ATC has not yet provided a schedule for recall notification. Owners may contact ATC customer service at 1-877-441-2440 ext. 342.

**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.**

A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(i)).

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Per the requirements of 49 USC 30119, please provide the part number, name and description of the component or components involved in this recall. This information should be provided in an amended 573 in the "Involved Components" section.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

As required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information (such as the numbers of deaths and/or injuries), with their dates of receipt.

**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.

Aluminum Trailer Company (ATC) 's contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Ansley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a checkmark at the end.

Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement