

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-023

Manufacturer Name : Excellance, Inc**Submission Date :** JAN 26, 2021**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-023**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Excellance, Inc

Address : 453 Lanier Road
Madison AL 35758

Company phone : 7729321

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 397

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2020 CLASS Suspension System RAM 4500/5500

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : DIESEL

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

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**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 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 1 : Brake Line

Component Description : Rear Brake Caliper Flexible Line

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Liquid Spring 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 : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported