

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-710

Manufacturer Name : Kaufman Trailers of NC, Inc.

Submission Date : NOV 01, 2021

NHTSA Recall No. : 21V-710

Manufacturer Recall No. : 21V710



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Kaufman Trailers of NC, Inc.

Number of potentially involved : 252

Address : 702 North Silver Street

Estimated percentage with defect : 20 %

Lexington NC 27292

Company phone : 336-790-6800

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2021 Kaufman Equipment Trailer

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Kaufman brand trailers with CADJ2516-15K adjustable coupler manufactured by Wallace Forge (Part # R25160). Potentially 252 units involved in the recall.

Production Dates : FEB 26, 2021 - JUN 07, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Incorrect internal locking mechanism is straight instead of radius. The incorrect straight internal locking mechanism causes excessive play when coupled with a 2-5/16" ball hitch, and in extreme conditions could cause the trailer to become uncoupled.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The incorrect straight internal locking mechanism causes excessive play when coupled with a 2-5/16" ball hitch, and in extreme conditions could cause the trailer to become uncoupled. The defective coupler may result in an increased risk of crash or injury.

Description of the Cause : The latch supplier for Wallace Forge manufactured the latch incorrectly resulting in the latch/coupler defect.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Unknown

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : CADJ2516-15K

Component Description : adjustable 2-5/16" ball coupler 15k-20k

Component Part Number : Wallace Forge Part # R25160

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Wallace Forge Company

Address : 3700 Georgetown St.

Canton Ohio 44704

Country : United States

Chronology :

6/3/21 our Company was notified for a coupler recall from Wallace Forge for WF Part # R25160 shipped between 12/15/20-5/1/21. We confirmed we did receive a shipment of this defective coupler. We identified 252 potential trailers sold to customers with potential defective couplers from WF. WF began contacting our customers to determine if their trailer was affected. On 9/9/21 NHTSA informed our Company that the recall needs to be handled by us and not our supplier of the defective coupler WF. Kaufman Trailers then began notifying our potentially effected customers via certified mailings of letters sent between 10/23/21-10/25/21. As of 11/1/21 we have determined 12 defective couplers from the customers we have received responses from. At this time no customers are reporting that they have had any failures with their defective coupler which have resulted in any damage, injuries or deaths. No increased risk of crash or injury have been reported at this time.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Recall letters were certified mailed to all potentially effected customers between 10/23/21-10/25/21. The customer visually inspects the coupler on their trailer. If the latch is found to be flat (defective) they contact Kaufman Trailers to notify us of the defect. Kaufman then creates a case report specific to that customers defect and notifies WF of the defect and customer specific information. WF then ships the customer a new compliant coupler free of charge. WF then notifies Kaufman Trailers that the defect has been remedied and our customer case is then updated.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : A remedy coupler will have a "cupped" latch or contoured to fit the profile of the 2-5/16" ball. The defective coupler has a flat face to the latch. There are pictures of the defective and correct coupler on the customer recall

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : letter for easy visual inspection.

All trailers on our yard were inspected for the coupler defect on 6/7/21 as well as all loose couplers in our coupler inventory. Kaufman Trailers then determined that on 2/26/21 we had received 200 potentially defective couplers from WF. We then searched in our information system and identified any potential customers to received trailers from 2/26/21 (date of receipt of potential defective couplers from WF until 6/7/21 (4 days after WF informed Kaufman of the defect). This list of customers is what we are currently using in Kaufman recall 21V710. The recall condition was corrected in production 6/7/21 by visual inspection of every coupler on finished trailers as well as in our inventory of couplers for the visual inspection of the flat faced latch instead of the correct cupped or contoured latch.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notifications were sent to all customers via certified mailing from 10/23/21-10/25/21. Responses are currently being received daily from customers and replacement couplers are being sent directly from WF to the customer free of charge for those deemed defective. Our defect tracking case files are updated on a daily basis.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 23, 2021 - OCT 25, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 23, 2021 - OCT 25, 2021

* NR - Not Reported