



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

February 9, 2022

Bob Johnson  
Inland Empire Trailers  
17748 Taylor Ave  
Bloomington, CA 92316

NEF-107MR  
22V-028

**Subject:** Spindle Nuts Improperly Tightened

Dear Bob Johnson:

This letter serves to acknowledge Inland Empire Trailers'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:**

INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/CAR HAULER TRAILER/2021  
INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/CUSTOM TRAILER/2021  
INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/DUMP TRAILER/2021  
INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/ENCLOSED TRAILER/2021  
INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/FLAT DECK TRAILER/2021  
INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/RZR TRAILER/2021  
INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/UTILITY TRAILER/2021  
INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/UTILITY/ DUMP TRAILER/2021  
INLAND EMPIRE TRAILERS/VENDING TRAILER/2021

**Mfr's Report Date:** January 24, 2022

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 22V-028

**Components:**

SUSPENSION:REAR:AXLE:SPINDLE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 50

**Problem Description:**

Inland Empire Trailers (Inland Empire) is recalling all 2021 Inland Empire (IE) trailers. The spindle nuts on the axles may have been improperly tightened during assembly.

**Consequence:**

Improperly tightened spindle nuts may cause excessive axle vibration and overheat the bearings, affecting vehicle control, and increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Inland Empire will inspect the spindle nuts and bearings, tighten the spindle nuts and replace the bearings as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed Feb. 14, 2022. Owners may contact Inland Empire at 1-909-999-5422.



**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.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

**Please ensure the following requirements are met:**

Identification of the products with their specific model names (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(2)).

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Your company's program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of your company's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with § 573.13. Your company's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by § 573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in your company's report to NHTSA. If your company submits one or more general reimbursement plans, your company shall update each plan every two years (§ 573.13). If the vehicles are new and would be covered under the manufacturer's warranty program, please state that in the remedy section of your filing.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

An identification and description of the risk to motor vehicle safety reasonably related to the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(5)). All filings should state an increased risk of either a crash, injury or fire.

**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.**

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.**

We have received Inland Empire Trailers's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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 eight 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.

Inland Empire Trailers'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