

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22E-101

Manufacturer Name : WARN INDUSTRIES, INC.

Submission Date : DEC 23, 2022

NHTSA Recall No. : 22E-101

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : WARN INDUSTRIES, INC.

Address : 12900 SE Capps Road
CLACKAMAS OR 97015

Company phone : 503-727-2004

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 121,187

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : WARN

Model : VR EVO 8

Part No. : 103250

Size : NR

Function : Winch

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes all WARN VR EVO winches with wireless/corded remote.

After investigating field reports of inadvertent activation, Warn determined that getting the remote control wet could result in water ingress and corrosion inside the remote control. This condition could lead to inadvertent activation. It was determined that this condition only affects remote controls with wireless capability that are not water proof.

The number of winches included in the population in the United States is: 12,848

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2019 - NOV 29, 2022

Brand / Trade 2 : WARN
Model : VR EVO 8-S
Part No. : 103251
Size : NR
Function : Winch

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes all WARN VR EVO winches with wireless/corded remote.

After investigating field reports of inadvertent activation, Warn determined that getting the remote control wet could result in water ingress and corrosion inside the remote control. This condition could lead to inadvertent activation. It was determined that this condition only affects remote controls with wireless capability that are not water proof.

The number of winches included in the population in the United States is: 10,089

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2019 - NOV 29, 2022

Brand / Trade 3 : WARN
Model : VR EVO 10
Part No. : 103252
Size : NR
Function : Winch

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes all WARN VR EVO winches with wireless/corded remote.

After investigating field reports of inadvertent activation, Warn determined that getting the remote control wet could result in water ingress and corrosion inside the remote control. This condition could lead to inadvertent activation. It was determined that this condition only affects remote controls with wireless capability that are not water proof.

The number of winches included in the population in the United States is: 15,288

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2019 - NOV 29, 2022

Brand / Trade 4 : WARN
Model : VR EVO 10-S
Part No. : 103253
Size : NR
Function : Winch

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes all WARN VR EVO winches with wireless/corded remote.

After investigating field reports of inadvertent activation, Warn determined that getting the remote control wet could result in water ingress and corrosion inside the remote control. This condition could lead to inadvertent activation. It was determined that this condition only affects remote controls with wireless capability that are not water proof.

The number of winches included in the population in the United States is: 43,781

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2019 - NOV 29, 2022

Brand / Trade 5 : WARN
Model : VR EVO 12
Part No. : 103254
Size : NR
Function : Winch

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes all WARN VR EVO winches with wireless/corded remote.

After investigating field reports of inadvertent activation, Warn determined that getting the remote control wet could result in water ingress and corrosion inside the remote control. This condition could lead to inadvertent activation. It was determined that this condition only affects remote controls with wireless capability that are not water proof.

The number of winches included in the population in the United States is: 15,024

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2019 - NOV 29, 2022

Brand / Trade 6 : WARN
Model : VR EVO 12-S
Part No. : 102355
Size : NR
Function : Winch

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes all WARN VR EVO winches with wireless/corded remote.

After investigating field reports of inadvertent activation, Warn determined that getting the remote control wet could result in water ingress and corrosion inside the remote control. This condition could lead to inadvertent activation. It was determined that this condition only affects remote controls with wireless capability that are not water proof.

The number of winches included in the population in the United States is: 22,178

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2019 - NOV 29, 2022

Brand / Trade 7 : WARN
Model : Remote & Control Module S/P
Part No. : 104218
Size : NR
Function : Switch

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes all WARN VR EVO winches with wireless/corded remote.

After investigating field reports of inadvertent activation, Warn determined that getting the remote control wet could result in water ingress and corrosion inside the remote control. This condition could lead to inadvertent activation. It was determined that this condition only affects remote controls with wireless capability that are not water proof.

The number of replacement remotes sold and included in the population in the United States is: 1,979

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2019 - NOV 29, 2022

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Ingress of water into the handheld remote control for the winch may result in corrosion on the circuit board. Water, and or corrosion on specific locations on the circuit board, may cause the winch to start operating when not intended, or to not turn off when switch button is released.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Personal injury if winch operates unexpectedly. No injuries have been reported associated with any product failures.
No significant property damage other than the winch system, winch mounting brackets and front bumpers have been reported as a result of corrosion-related issues.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The vehicle driver or winch operator may hear the winch motor running when not intended.

Involved Components :

Component Name : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : Warn Industries, Inc.

Address : 12900 SE Capps Rd.
Clackamas Oregon 97015

Country : United States

Chronology :

08/15/2022: Customer returned winch with explanation that while his vehicle was parked, the VR EVO winch power cables had experienced some event that caused the insulation on the wiring to melt.
A review of previous customer complaints and product returns was conducted. Since the EVO product was first sold in 2019 approx. 25 reports were found mentioning unintended operation of the winch. During this period

over 200,000 winches were sold worldwide and over 120,000 in the USA. It was found that several of these winches had been returned to Warn for inspection and no cause was determined for the failure.

08/15/2022: Product and information regarding the product failures was sent to the contract manufacturer for review and analysis.

09/09/2022: Customer returned product exhibiting the same type of failure as the one on August 15, 2022. "Customer states that his EVO 10 started running by itself..."

09/30/2022: Customer returned product exhibiting the same type of failure as the one on August 15 and September 9.

10/14/2022: Contract manufacturer is unable to diagnose root cause of the failures. Warn's engineering team initiates investigation into potential root causes of failures.

11/22/2022: Investigations indicate that water intrusion and corrosion on the circuit board are potential causes of the type of failures observed.

11/29/2022: Production hold placed on EVO winch line. Stop ship notice placed on all sales of EVO winches from Warn Industries.

12/07/2022: Testing activities validate water intrusion and corrosion as root cause of unintended operation of the winch.

12/16/2022: Field rework process identified to mitigate the potential for unintended operation of the winch without notice by disabling the wireless function of the remote control.

12/16/2022: Warn Industries reviewed the issues and decided to implement a recall and issue a bulletin to consumers notifying them of the hazard including instructions for inspecting for corrosion and disabling the wi

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Warn will notify customers of the hazard including instructions for inspecting for corrosion and disabling the wireless function to significantly mitigate the hazard.
Warn will offer consumers/winch owners a \$100 coupon as compensation for the lack of wireless function.
Warn will also offer a new corded-only remote (no wireless function) to replace any remote that shows evidence of corrosion, unexpected operation of the winch, or for remotes that have been submerged or exposed to water.
Warn will rework all existing unsold inventory of winches, including distributor and dealer inventories, with a new corded-only remote which will have a conformal coated circuit board and sealed switch components, but without wireless function. A \$100 coupon will be included with these winches as compensation for the lack of wireless function.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Removing the battery pack from the current remote control disables the wireless function controlling the winch, significantly mitigating the hazard. The remote remains fully usable in the corded configuration when physically plugged into the winch. Unplugging the remote from the winch when not in use eliminates the hazard.

The new corded-only remote that will be used in reworked existing unsold

inventory, will have a new switch face that is visually different from the current remote. It will not have wireless control functions, including wireless indicator light and mode switch. The internal circuit board will be fully conformal coated and use sealed switches.

A new wireless/corded handheld remote is being designed for all new production winches.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The new wireless/corded remote currently being designed will have full conformal coating on the interior circuitry and sealed switches. Implementation date TBD.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : 12/22/22: Stop ship notice sent to Warn's distributors and dealers

01/XX/23: Warn to notify consumers through our websites, dealers' websites, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, industry forums, and other media.

01/XX/23: Warn to notify its direct customers and dealers by email

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

* NR - Not Reported