

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

June 12, 2023

Mr. Appie Theron Autocar, LLC 551 S Washington Street Hagerstown, IN 47346 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-107MR 23V-416

Subject: Improperly Welded Steering Column Shaft

Dear Mr. Theron:

This letter serves to acknowledge Autocar, LLC'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:

AUTOCAR/LEGEND/2022-2023

Mfr's Report Date: June 8, 2023

NHTSA Campaign Number: 23V-416

**Components:** 

STEERING:COLUMN

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 39

## **Problem Description:**

Autocar, LLC. (Autocar) is recalling certain 2022-2023 DC (Legend) vehicles. The steering column shaft may not have been properly welded.

#### **Consequence:**

An improperly welded steering column shaft can separate and cause a sudden loss of steering control, increasing the risk of a crash.

### Remedy:

Dealers will inspect and replace the steering column shaft, as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed August 4, 2023. Owners may contact Autocar customer service at 1-888-218-3611. Autocar's number for this recall is DC-2304.

#### **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.

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 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 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. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Autocar, LLC'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.

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

