



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

September 26, 2023

Mr. Mike Jones  
Wabash National Corporation  
1000 Sagamore Pkwy S  
Lafayette, IN 47905

NEF-107DC  
23V-646

**Subject:** Reduced Rear Impact Guard Protection/FMVSS 224

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter serves to acknowledge Wabash National Corporation'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:**

WABASH NATIONAL/VAN/2009-2024

**Mfr's Report Date:** September 20, 2023

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 23V-646

**Components:**

STRUCTURE:BODY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 3,448

**Problem Description:**

Wabash National Corporation (Wabash) is recalling certain 2009-2024 dry van trailers equipped with a rail-style lift gate. Please see the recall report for a complete list of models. The location of the rear impact guard is too far forward from the rear of the trailer, reducing impact protection. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 224, "Rear Impact Protection."

**Consequence:**

In the event of a rear impact crash, the rear impact guard may not sufficiently protect light duty vehicles, increasing the risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

Dealers will add an extension to the rear impact guard, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed November 17, 2023. Owners may contact Wabash customer service at 1-765-771-5404.

**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:**

Per the requirements of 49 USC 30119, please provide the part number, name and description of the component or components involved in this recall. This information should be provided in an amended 573 in the "Involved Components" section.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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.

Wabash National Corporation's contact for this recall will be Debora Crews who may be reached by email at [debora.crews@dot.gov](mailto:debora.crews@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement