

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-020

Manufacturer Name : Alamo Group Inc.

Submission Date : DEC 22, 2023

NHTSA Recall No. : 23V-020

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Alamo Group Inc.

Address : 1627 East Walnut St

Seguin TX 78155

Company phone : (830) 379-1480

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 51

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2021 AllVac AVR-B-18

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population has been determined based on examination of manufacturing and quality control processes for certain exhaust silencer components in the identified AllVac models above. The vehicles in the recall population differ from other vehicles in that the exhaust silencers in the recalled AllVac vehicles are a different type of silencer and were not secured to the power frame of the vehicle with c-clamp bracket.

Production Dates : MAR 01, 2018 - JUL 31, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1FVHG3CY9GHHA1507 End : 5KKXAMCG0HPJF8489 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : As a result of insufficient support of the exhaust silencer, the vibration of vacuum operations could lead to cracking in the welds securing the exhaust silencer to the frame and detachment of the exhaust silencer from the vehicle.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : An exhaust silencer detaching from a vehicle while the vehicle is in motion could increase the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : The design of the support structure for the exhaust silencer was a metal plate bolted to the frame that the exhaust silencer sat on but was not attached to. In addition, the type of exhaust silencer was not sufficiently robust for the vibrations of the vacuum operations.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : N/A

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Exhaust Silencer

Component Description : Exhaust silencer that reduces noise when vehicle is performing vacuum operations.

Component Part Number : VA42080030

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Miratech Corporation

Address : 420 South 145th East Ave

Mail Drop A Tulsa Oklahoma 74108

Country : United States

Chronology :

In March 2020, Gradall was notified by a customer in Chile that an exhaust silencer for an AllVac AVR-B-18 vehicle detached from the vehicle. In discussing this issue with the customer, it was discovered that the operational terrain was extremely rugged. This was considered an isolated incident caused by the terrain on which the vehicle was operating.

In July 2021, as part of a broader product standardization effort, Gradall changed the model of exhaust silencer used in AllVac AVR-B-18 vehicles and secured that silencer to the frame of the vehicle with c-clamp bracket.

In February 2022, Gradall was notified by another owner of an AllVAC AVR-B-18 built prior to the July 2021 product standardization that this same issue had occurred (i.e., the exhaust silencer detached from the vehicle) while the vehicle was being driven on a public roadway. This customer also observed cracks in the welds on exhaust silencers on one other pre-July 2021 AllVac AVR-B-18 vehicle that the customer owns.

In October 2022, Gradall conducted a safety investigation to assess the failure mode, the failure rate, and potential causes. As part of that investigation, Gradall reviewed information reported by the customer in February 2022 and contacted another customer who operates a number of AllVac AVR-B-18 vehicles. The second customer also observed cracks in the welds on the exhaust silencer and reported that two exhaust silencers had broken from the frame, but not detached from the vehicle.

Gradall also inspected AllVac AVR-B-18 vehicles that were manufactured after the July 2021 design change. None of those vehicles had cracks in the welds or detached exhaust silencers.

As of January 13, 2023, Alamo was aware of no warranty claims, no deaths, and no injuries related to this issue. The customer notifications in March 2020 and February 2022 are the only such notifications or reports Alamo

has received on this issue. On January 13, 2023, Alamo decided to declare a voluntary safety recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Gradall will provide direct sale customers and dealers with instructions to examine all welds on the exhaust silencer and repair any cracked welds, reattach any detached silencers, and weld a c-shape bracket from the silencer to the power frame.

Affected vehicle owners will be notified by first class mail. Affected vehicle owners who are direct sale customers will be provided the instructions and parts to remedy their vehicles and receive reimbursement. Affected vehicle owners who purchased their vehicle from a dealer will be directed to take their vehicle to a Gradall affiliated dealer to have the remedy performed free of charge.

If this condition was identified and remedied on an affected vehicle prior to this campaign, Gradall will reimburse owners who have incurred the cost of such remedy.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy provides additional support for the exhaust silencer with the installation of the c-shape bracket and repairs to any cracked welds.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : As of August 1, 2021, Gradall has used a different design and different type of exhaust silencer for all subsequently manufactured AllVac AVR-18 vehicles.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Gradall will notify all affected owners and dealers of AllVac vehicles by owner letters sent via USPS within 60 days.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 24, 2023 - MAR 24, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 24, 2023 - MAR 24, 2023

* NR - Not Reported