

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-256

Manufacturer Name : Alamo Group Inc.**Submission Date :** APR 07, 2023**NHTSA Recall No. :** 23V-256**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 : 563

Estimated percentage with defect : 30 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2014-2019 Super Products Camel and Mud Dog

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 tank tie rod components in the identified Camel and Mud Dog models above. The vehicles in the recall population differ from other vehicles in that the tank tie rods in the recalled Camel and Mud Dog vehicles do not have sufficient rod penetration or weld size with the tabbed washer that connect the tank tie rod to the water tank strap.

Production Dates : APR 08, 2014 - AUG 01, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1FVHG3CY9EHEZ2516 End : 1NPCX7EXOLD654610 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : As a result of insufficient rod penetration and weld size, the tank strap tie rod could disengage from the square tabbed washer which connects the tie rod to the top of the tank water strap.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A tank strap tie rod disengaged from the tabbed washer could lead to the water tank strap falling down from the top of the vehicle while the vehicle is in motion, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : The rod penetration through the washer and weld size of the tank tie rod at that attachment point that were received from a vendor were not sufficient to keep the tank tie rod and water tank strap secure.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Tank tie rods

Component Description : Tank tie rods that secure the water tank strap to the side of the water tank.

Component Part Number : 0001631,001633,0020053

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Fabri-Tech, Inc.

Address : 225 N. Janacek Rd.

Brookfield Wisconsin 53045

Country : United States

Chronology :

In May 2018, Super Products was notified by a customer that a tank strap tie rod had disengaged from the top of a Mud Dog vehicle, and the water tank strap had fallen down. In July 2019, Super Products received a similar report from a customer for a Camel vehicle. The Mud Dog and the Camel are the only two Super Product models that use this tank tie rod part. Super Products instituted a design change on August 1, 2019, to increase rod penetration and weld size for the tank strap tie rod on both models. Between January 2020 and June 2022, Super Products learned of 4 more incidents of tank strap tie rod weld failures for the affected vehicle population. The last of these incidents occurred in May 2022 while the Camel vehicle was operating on a public road and the tank strap fell and came into contact with the back window of another vehicle. This caused property damage to the other vehicle, but no accident or injury. After the May 2022 incident, Super Products conducted metallurgical tests on the tank tie rod and the connected square tabbed washer to confirm the cause as insufficient rod penetration and weld size. Super Products then examined other Camel and Mud Dog vehicles that were manufactured around the same time period as the 6 reported cases. Super Products examined 129 additional tank tie rods on 32 vehicles. As a result of the investigation, one additional vehicle was identified on which the tank tie rod had been replaced with a threaded rod, but Super Products could not confirm if the original tank tie rod had disengaged before the repair with the threaded rod was made. Also, through the course of the investigation, Super Products discovered cracked welds on 9 tank tie rods, but none of the rods were disengaged. All 9 cracked tank tie rods were replaced. In October 2022, during the course of the investigation a customer reported another disengaged tank tie rod. On March 31, 2023, Alamo decided to declare a voluntary safety recall to remedy this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Super Products will provide dealers with proprietary tool and instructions to examine rod penetration, weld size, and any weld cracks on the tank tie rods and instructions to order new tank tie rods and instructions for their installation if necessary.

Affected vehicle owners will be notified by first class mail. Affected vehicle owners will be directed to take the vehicle to an authorized dealer or Super Products rental store to have the remedy performed free of charge.

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

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy provides for a process to determine if there is sufficient rod penetration and weld size, and if the rod penetration is not sufficient, instructions on how to order replacement tank tie rods and install such rods. Such installation will include greater rod penetration and a larger weld size than in the recalled component.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : As of August 1, 2019, Super Products has used a different design with greater rod penetration and weld size for all subsequently manufactured Camel and Mud Dog vehicles.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Super Products will notify all affected owners and dealers of Camel and Mud Dog vehicles by owner letters sent via USPS within 60 days.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUN 06, 2023 - JUN 06, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUN 06, 2023 - JUN 06, 2023

* NR - Not Reported