

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-381

Manufacturer Name : Knapheide Manufacturing Company

Submission Date : DEC 01, 2023

NHTSA Recall No. : 23V-381

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Knapheide Manufacturing Company

Number of potentially involved : 38

Address : 1848 WESTPHALIA STRASSE
PO BOX 7140 QUINCY IL 62305-7140

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

Company phone : 217-222-7131

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2022 Warn Industries VR EVO winches

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Knapheide Manufacturing Company installed WARN Industries winches on Altered and Final Stage vehicles that are currently in Recall 22E-101
The recall population includes all WARN VR EVO winches with a 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 waterproof.

Knapheide Manufacturing Company installed the following items:

Models: VR EVO 8-S winch on

1) GM 2500HD Gas

, VR EVO 10-S winch on

1) Ford F-250 Gas

3) GM 2500HD Gas

VR EVO 12 winch on

16) GM 2500HD Gas

2) Ford F-550 Diesel
and VR EVO 12-S on

2) Ford F-350 Gas

4) Ram 3500 Diesel

8) GM 3500 Diesel

1) Ford F-550 Gas

all with S/P Remote & Control Module 104218.

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2019 - NOV 30, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

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

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Personal injury if the 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 1 : VR EVO Winch 103251

Component Description : 8,000 lb. winch remote control

Component Part Number : 104218 - S/P Remote & Control Module

Component Name 2 : VR EVO Winch 103253

Component Description : 10,000 lb. winch remote control

Component Part Number : 104218-S/P Remote & Control Module

Component Name 3 : VR EVO Winch 103254

Component Description : 12,000 lb. winch remote control

Component Part Number : 104218-S/P Remote & Control Module

Component Name 4 : VR EVO Winch 103255

Component Description : 12,000 lb. winch remote control

Component Part Number : 104218-S/P Remote & Control Module

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : WARN Industries, Inc.
Address : 12900 SE Capps Road
Clackamas Oregon 97015
Country : United States

Chronology :

03/15/2023: The Knapheide Manufacturing Company (Knapheide) received notification of the Warn Winch Recall (22E101).

03/20/2023 - 06/16/2023: Knapheide identified 38 potential serial numbers that were installed on final stage/altered vehicles.

06/19/2023 - 09/30/2023: Knapheide located the vehicles/owners through our distribution system.

10/01/2023 - 10/13/2023: Knapheide drafted Owner Notification Letters & received NHTSA approval of Final Letters to be mailed.

10/20/2023: Individual owner letters were sent out to vehicle owners.

10/27/2023: Received email from NHTSA indicating that Knapheide was done with this recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Knapheide Manufacturing Company 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 customers / 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 remoted that have 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 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 reworking existing unsold inventory will have a new switch face that is visually different from the current remote. It will no longer 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 : Forward copy of WARN SAFETY RECALL NOTICE NHTSA Recall No.22E101

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUN 20, 2023 - JUN 30, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUN 30, 2023 - JUN 30, 2023

* NR - Not Reported