

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-794

Manufacturer Name : Lode-King Industries, Ltd.

Submission Date : MAR 04, 2024

NHTSA Recall No. : 23V-794

Manufacturer Recall No. : N/A



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Lode-King Industries, Ltd.

Address : Box 1146
135 Canada St Winkler, Manitoba-
Canada 00 R6W4B4

Company phone : 1-204-325-4345

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 66

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2024 Prestige Trailers AHV42-2

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Population based on a new hopper configuration being offered on these hopper bottom trailers, with a 2-speed gearbox. Trailers without this 2-speed gearbox feature do not have this issue.

Qty 66 semi-trailers are affected by this recall.

Production Dates : OCT 09, 2020 - NOV 03, 2023

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 2LDAH4221MV070077 **End :** 2T9AH4227RV206715 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : These 66 trailers are all equipped from new with a lockable 2-speed gearbox to drive the chute doors and, a stopper mechanism that prevents the chute door from coming completely out of its track. It has always been assumed that operators would close and lock these chute doors before venturing out onto a public roadway. We have recently learned of two incidents where the operator left the chute doors open and was able to defeat the stopper mechanism, thereby losing a door on the highway while in transit. This chute door is a large stainless steel plate that weighs in excess of 100 lb.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The potential safety risk will only occur in the event the operator fails to close and lock the doors after emptying the trailer and proceeds to drive with the chute doors remaining open. It is possible for the door(s) to vibrate loose and fall off the trailer while in transit. If this chute door would come loose and fall off the trailer while in transit, there is increased risk that another vehicle may

hit the loose part laying on the highway, doing damage to the vehicle and possibly injury to the vehicle occupants. In the worst case scenario, this might lead of a vehicle crash.

Description of the Cause : Cause of this issue was a faulty design assumption that operators would not drive the trailer with the chute doors open and the locking mechanism unlocked. They need to be closed when moving.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None known.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : LATCH, GEAR DRIVE

Component Description : STOPPER FINGER TO PREVENT CHUTE DOOR REMOVAL

Component Part Number : 11AG0356

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

Two customers recently contacted our Parts Department requesting to purchase replacement chute doors. This is unusual as these doors normally last for the life of the trailer and do not need to be replaced. When we questioned these customers as to why they needed new chute doors, they advised that the ones that came with the trailer were missing. We concluded they were lost in transit. Upon further questioning we learned that the operator had left the chute doors open while travelling.

There have been no warranty claims for this defect. There have been no field or service reports related to this defect. There are no test reports related to this defect. There have been no deaths or injuries that we are aware of related to this defect.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : We are planning a two-fold remedy. First, we want to install a safety decal beside the 2-speed gearbox advising the operator to close and lock the chute doors prior to moving the trailer. Second, we want to remove the existing foldable stopper finger and replace it with a rigid mounted stopper finger. Once the stopper finger is installed the operator would need to crawl under the trailer with some wrenches to be able to get the chute door off the trailer.

These upgrades will be made available to the end user customer of the trailer either by taking it to our dealer and having the updates installed, or if they wish to do this install themselves, we will arrange to pay them for their labor time. In either situation Prestige trailers will provide the necessary parts at no cost to the dealer or the end user customer. Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), Prestige Trailers does not plan to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since none of the involved vehicles would have been previously subject to the condition described and all remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The difference will be that once the new decal is added and the door stopper finger installed, the door will not be able to come out of its track.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : There are more new trailer of this configuration currently in production. We will ensure that these updates, the decal and rigid stopper finger, are incorporated from new. This has already happened this week on our production line.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : The Notification Letters for this Recall have been mailed out to all of the end user customers on 2023 December 6.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 29, 2023 - DEC 15, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 29, 2023 - DEC 15, 2023

* NR - Not Reported