

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 24E-051

**Manufacturer Name :** Hendrickson USA. L.L.C.

**Submission Date :** JUN 20, 2024

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 24E-051

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** HAUX 2024-01



## Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** Hendrickson USA. L.L.C.

**Address :** 2021 Parkside Drive

Schaumburg IL 60173

**Company phone :** 630-773-9111

## Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 461

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 33 %

## Equipment Information :

**Brand / Trade 1 :** Hendrickson

**Model :** COMPOSILITE EXS20

**Part No. :** Multiple part no's.

**Size :** 20,000 lb. rated capacity

**Function :** Lift axles

**Descriptive Information :** A limited number of Hendrickson COMPOSILITE EXS20 steerable auxiliary lift axle suspension assemblies are equipped with suspect tie rod assemblies with ball stud components that may not have been properly heat treated during manufacture.

**Production Dates :** APR 11, 2024 - MAY 29, 2024

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** The above-referenced tie rod assemblies include ball stud components that may not have been properly heat treated during manufacture.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** In some cases, the above-referenced condition may cause the tie rod assembly ball studs to fail. This can further result in (1) improper operation of the lift axle steerable wheels, (2) partial separation of the tie rod assembly from the lift axle, and/or (3) foreign object debris on the roadway, increasing the risk of a crash and/or injury. Hendrickson has not received any warranty claims, end user complaints, or field reports of accidents or injuries associated with this issue.

**Description of the Cause :** Hendrickson's supplier mixed improperly hardened ball studs, resulting from an experimental heat treatment process, with production-ready ball studs

installed on tie rods assemblies shipped to Hendrickson and other manufacturers.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : There is no warning prior to any ball stud failure.

## Involved Components :

Component Name : Tie rod assembly

Component Description : Tie rod assembly equipped with ball studs

Component Part Number : USK Part No. 015537-2000

Component Name : Tie rod assembly

Component Description : Tie rod assembly equipped with ball studs

Component Part Number : USK Part No. 015537-2100

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : USK Internacional S.A. de C.V.

Address : Avenida Huehuetoca SN, San Mateo Ixtacal  
Cuautitlan Izcalli Foreign States 54713

Country : Mexico

## Chronology :

05/25/24: Hendrickson received letter from its supplier, USK Internacional S.A. de C.V. ("USK"), advising it had shipped tie rod assemblies equipped with improperly hardened ball studs, resulting from an experimental heat treatment process. USK identified the applicable manufacturing date codes for the suspect tie rod assemblies.

05/29/24: Hendrickson completed its initial internal sort and containment of affected USK tie rod assemblies (Part Nos. 015537-2000 and 015537-2100) for use on lift axle suspension assemblies.

05/29/24: Hendrickson contained all suspect Part No. 015537-2100 tie rod assemblies for use on lift axle suspension assemblies.

06/06/24: Hendrickson located an additional shipment of suspect Part No. 015537-2100 tie rod assemblies

received from USK, and informed USK accordingly.

06/11/24: Hendrickson began conferring with its applicable vehicle manufacturer and equipment installer customers regarding the subject condition and affected lift axle suspension assemblies.

06/12/24: Hendrickson began assisting its above-referenced customers with efforts to identify, inspect, and remedy as-needed, affected lift axle suspension assemblies.

Hendrickson has not received any warranty claims, end user complaints, or field reports of accidents or injuries associated with this issue.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** Hendrickson will send a formal notification to its affected commercial vehicle and equipment installer customers regarding this matter. The notification will recommend such customers and/or applicable owners of any vehicles equipped with the affected COMPOSILITE EXS20 lift axle suspension assemblies (manufactured from 04/11/2024 to 05/29/2024) to: (1) use Hendrickson instructions for inspecting suspect tie rod assemblies with applicable USK manufacturing date codes to identify any ball studs with an incorrect light (vs. dark) surface color, indicating improper heat treatment and the need to be replaced; and (2) work with Hendrickson to arrange for and install, as needed, replacement tie rod assembly service kits free of charge. Hendrickson will manage and track all shipments of replacement service kits. Hendrickson will provide, as applicable, standard allocation of labor hours for installation of the replacement service kits.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** The replacement tie rod assemblies will include ball studs with a dark surface color, indicating they have been properly heat treated by USK's approved process.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** USK advises they have updated their manufacturing and quality procedures with proper labeling and handling controls for heat treated production components.

## Recall Schedule :

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Hendrickson has begun informally notifying its applicable customers regarding this matter and assisting them to (1) locate affected lift axle suspension assemblies, (2) facilitate proper inspections of such assemblies, and (3) install, as needed, replacement tie rod assemblies. Formal updated notifications will start within 30 days.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** NR - NR

**Planned Owner Notification Date :** NR - NR

**Purchaser Information :**

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : Daimler Trucks North America

Address : 4747 N. Channel Avenue  
Portland OR 97217-3849

Country : US

Company Phone : 503-745-8000

Name : Mack Trucks, Volvo Group Trucks

Address : 8003 Piedmont Triad Parkway  
Greensboro NC 27409

Country : US

Company Phone : 301-573-5972

Name : Volvo Trucks North America, Volvo Group

Address : 8003 Piedmont Triad Parkway  
Greensboro NC 27409

Country : US

Company Phone : 301-573-5972

Name : Navistar, Inc.

Address : 2701 Navistar Drive  
Lisle IL 60532

Country : US

Company Phone : 331-332-5000

Name : Autocar, LLC

Address : 4680 Pinson Valley Pkwy.  
Birmingham AL 35215

Country : US

Company Phone : 888-218-3611

Name : Apex Equipment Sales

Address : 1400 W. 53rd St.  
West Palm Beach FL 33407

Country : US

Company Phone : 561-842-0101

Name : Galbreath, Inc.  
Address : 480 E. 150 S  
Winamac IN 46996  
Country : US  
Company Phone : 574-946-6631

Name : Gapvax, Inc.  
Address : 575 Central Ave.  
Johnstown PA 15902  
Country : US  
Company Phone : 814-535-6766

Name : Hiab USA, Inc.  
Address : 12233 Williams Rd  
Perrysburg OH 43551  
Country : US  
Company Phone : 419-482-6000

Name : Municipal Equipment, Inc.  
Address : 6305 Shepherdsville Road  
Louisville KY 40228  
Country : US  
Company Phone : 800-248-7590

Name : River City Hydraulics  
Address : 122 Magnet Dr.  
Sherwood AR 72120  
Country : US  
Company Phone : 501-835-5230

Name : Ruble Truck Sales Inc.  
Address : 11995 Dechell Drive N.  
New Haven IN 46774  
Country : US  
Company Phone : 260-437-0398

Name : Sanitation Products Inc.  
Address : 1402 41st St. N.  
Fargo ND 58107  
Country : US  
Company Phone : 612-476-0463

\* NR - Not Reported