

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

24V-098

Manufacturer Name : Vermeer Manufacturing Company**Submission Date :** JUN 24, 2024**NHTSA Recall No. :** 24V-098**Manufacturer Recall No. :** IK4524**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Vermeer Manufacturing Company

Address : 1210 VERMEER ROAD EAST

PO BOX 200 PELLA IA 50219-0200

Company phone : 641-628-3141

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 38

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2016-2024 Vermeer BC1800XL

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Using various manufacturing documents and drawings, as well as personnel records, research was conducted to determine the population of brush chippers equipped with surge brakes that may be affected by premature failure of the tongue weldment. This premature failure of the tongue weldment is unique to the BC1800XL machines equipped with certain surge brake assemblies.

There are now 38 units involved in this campaign.

Production Dates : OCT 12, 2015 - NOV 22, 2023

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1VRY151Z5G1006018 End : 1VRD15AG0R1052419 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Under certain conditions the tongue weldment may develop cracking during transport on a public roadway.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If cracking develops and continues to propagate, hitch could separate from the tongue/towbar possibly resulting in loss of control of the brush chipper and towing vehicle. When towing the brush chipper on public roadways, death or serious injury may result due to the loss of control of the brush chipper and/or towing vehicle. A drawbar failure may increase the risk of a crash. Property or equipment damage may also occur.

Description of the Cause : When the surge brake assembly is equipped, an unfavorable load pattern results in areas of high stress.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Inspection for cracks is part of routine machine maintenance and driver inspection. If cracking is found, machine manuals direct repair or replacement.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Weldment - Tongue

Component Description : Weldment - Tongue

Component Part Number : 163709680

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

May-2023: Service department received report from dealer regarding failure of tongue weldment and requested parts from dealer for analysis.

December-2023: Service department received parts from dealer for analysis.

January-2024: Service department informed product safety department about failure and initiated evaluation. Service department confirmed no previous reports on issue have been received.

24-January-2024: Product safety department held discussion with service department regarding corrective action after failure report.

2-February-2024: Product safety department met with engineering to discuss evaluation.

5-February-2024: Recall determination was made.

March-2024: Coordinated manufacturing of repair parts with engineering and production teams to replace defective surge brake drawbar structure with updated, welded design.

April 2024-May 2024: During manufacturing, engineering design teams conducted finite element analysis of the updated weldment. Structural analysis of the hitch assemblies and initial proposed solution resulted in determination that affected serial number range must be expanded to included welded surge brake drawbar design. Engineering design teams ordered updated repair parts based on results of finite element analysis.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Vermeer will prepare field remedy kits which will include the necessary parts and instructions to secure the trailer tongue. The newly designed surge brake tongue will be integrated into the tongue weldment instead of being bolted on. Upon installation and receipt of field remedy kit warranty claim, dealers will be reimbursed for the parts and labor. Owners will be notified of the potential safety risk and available field remedy kit by letter according to the product database records maintained by Vermeer Corporation. Vermeer Corporation pays for all parts and labor for product safety recalls regardless of whether the machine is still covered by its one-year standard limited warranty or whether the warranty has expired. Vermeer Corporation will reimburse a retail customer/machine owner when the owner has paid for a repair prior to the product safety alert field campaign. Owner must provide proof of repair. For an owner to obtain reimbursement, owner must inquire with an authorized, independent Vermeer dealer.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy will mitigate high stress concentrations on tongue weldment.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Recall condition was corrected in production after the last build of the affected tongue weldment on 2/16/2021.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer notification will begin 21-March-2024 by email with list of affected machines in their area of responsibility. Owner notification letters will be sent 04-April-2024 with translated letters where necessary for their affected units.

Second interim owner notification letters will be sent 11-July -2024, with translated letters where necessary for their affected units. Provision of repair parts to the field will occur in or before September 2024.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 21, 2024 - MAR 21, 2024

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUL 11, 2024 - JUL 11, 2024

* NR - Not Reported