



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V417

Manufacturer Name: Bowlus Road Chief LLC

Submission Date: Jun 30, 2025

NHTSA Recall No.: 25V417

Manufacturer Recall No.:

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Bowlus Road Chief LLC

Address: 1910 Eastman Ave
Oxnard CA, 93030

Total number of potentially involved: 57

Estimated percentage with defect: 100%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2023-2023 BOWLUS ENDLESS HIGHWAYS

Product Category: Trailers

Product Type:

Fuel / Propulsion:

Production Dates: Jan 01, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023

Number of potentially involved: 4

Descriptive Information:

Starting in 2022, some Bowlus trailers are equipped with an elongated hitch to accommodate a propane tank. That hitch uses two bolts to secure the top and bottom of the hitch together. The owners manuals provided with these trailers contain maintenance schedules requiring trailer bolts to be re-torqued at regular intervals but omit specific reference to maintenance of the two new hitch bolts.

Vehicle 2: 2024-2024 BOWLUS TERRA FIRMA

Product Category: Trailers

Product Type:

Fuel / Propulsion:

Production Dates: Jan 01, 2024 - Dec 31, 2024

Number of potentially involved: 7

Descriptive Information:

Starting in 2022, some Bowlus trailers are equipped with an elongated hitch to accommodate a propane tank. That hitch uses two bolts to secure the top and bottom of the hitch together. The owners manuals provided with these trailers contain maintenance schedules requiring trailer bolts to be re-torqued at regular intervals but omit specific reference to maintenance of the two new hitch bolts.

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**25V417****Vehicle 3:** 2025-2025 BOWLUS ENDLESS HIGHWAYS**Product Category:** Trailers**Product Type:** Recreational Trailers**Fuel / Propulsion:****Production Dates:** Jan 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025**Number of potentially involved:** 7**Descriptive Information:**

Starting in 2022, some Bowlus trailers are equipped with an elongated hitch to accommodate a propane tank. That hitch uses two bolts to secure the top and bottom of the hitch together. The owners manuals provided with these trailers contain maintenance schedules requiring trailer bolts to be re-torqued at regular intervals but omit specific reference to maintenance of the two new hitch bolts.

Vehicle 4: 2024-2024 BOWLUS VOLTERRA**Product Category:** Trailers**Product Type:** Recreational Trailers**Fuel / Propulsion:****Production Dates:** Jan 01, 2024 - Dec 31, 2024**Number of potentially involved:** 16**Descriptive Information:**

Starting in 2022, some Bowlus trailers are equipped with an elongated hitch to accommodate a propane tank. That hitch uses two bolts to secure the top and bottom of the hitch together. The owners manuals provided with these trailers contain maintenance schedules requiring trailer bolts to be re-torqued at regular intervals but omit specific reference to maintenance of the two new hitch bolts.

Vehicle 5: 2022-2022 BOWLUS ENDLESS HIGHWAYS**Product Category:** Trailers**Product Type:****Fuel / Propulsion:****Production Dates:** Jan 01, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022**Number of potentially involved:** 9**Descriptive Information:**

Starting in 2022, some Bowlus trailers are equipped with an elongated hitch to accommodate a propane tank. That hitch uses two bolts to secure the top and bottom of the hitch together. The owners manuals provided with these trailers contain maintenance schedules requiring trailer bolts to be re-torqued at regular intervals but omit specific reference to maintenance of the two new hitch bolts.

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Vehicle 6: 2025-2025 BOWLUS RIVET

Product Category: Trailers

Product Type: Recreational Trailers

Fuel / Propulsion:

Production Dates: Jan 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 13

Descriptive Information:

Starting in 2022, some Bowlus trailers are equipped with an elongated hitch to accommodate a propane tank. That hitch uses two bolts to secure the top and bottom of the hitch together. The owners manuals provided with these trailers contain maintenance schedules requiring trailer bolts to be re-torqued at regular intervals but omit specific reference to maintenance of the two new hitch bolts.

Vehicle 7: 2025-2025 BOWLUS VOLTERRA

Product Category: Trailers

Product Type: Recreational Trailers

Fuel / Propulsion:

Production Dates: Jan 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 1

Descriptive Information:

Starting in 2022, some Bowlus trailers are equipped with an elongated hitch to accommodate a propane tank. That hitch uses two bolts to secure the top and bottom of the hitch together. The owners manuals provided with these trailers contain maintenance schedules requiring trailer bolts to be re-torqued at regular intervals but omit specific reference to maintenance of the two new hitch bolts.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

The re-torque maintenance requirement was not listed in the vehicle Owner's Manuals as part of the Maintenance Schedule. If an owner fails to properly torque the two bolts securing the top and bottom of the hitch, the bolts may become loose and increase stress on the hitch and components.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

Hitch bolts that are not properly maintained and become loose may cause the bottom portion of the hitch to separate from the top of the hitch, which could create a hazard, increasing the risk of a crash.

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Description of the cause:

The bolts fastening the upper and lower portions of the hitch can come loose if not regularly maintained. The re-torque maintenance requirement was not listed in the vehicle Owner's Manuals as part of the Maintenance Schedule.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

The bolts connecting the top and bottom of the hitch together may show signs of loosening when inspected. The door of Bowlus may not open fully. Hitch components may appear compromised.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier:

Supplier Type:

Name:

Address:

Country:

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Owner's Manual

Component Description: Owner's Manual

Component Part Number: Owner's Manual

Chronology

June 2025: Bowlus becomes aware of one Bowlus in which the bolts were not maintained and became loose, and the top of the hitch separated from the bottom of the hitch. Investigation begins.

June 2025: Safety committee meets and discusses the specifications of the unit with failure. On June 16, 2025, the committee recommends a voluntary safety recall of affected vehicles to update the maintenance schedules in the owners manuals.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type:

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Consumer Advisories: Do Not Drive Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

An addendum will be distributed to customers for the owner's manual to note that these bolts must be torqued as part of regular maintenance.

Service technicians will be instructed to visually inspect the hitch of the affected production population and replace the bolts with new bolts. The technician will properly torque the bolts. These replacement bolts will not require specialized tools to install. Should the hitch components appear compromised during technician visual inspection, repairs will be performed. Technicians will be provided technical instructions by Bowlus. This will be done at no cost to the owner.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

The manual will contain an addendum that notes these two bolts must be torqued as part of regular maintenance. Replacement bolts with washers and locknuts extend through the bottom part of the hitch to the top of the porch. Any unit produced after 6/16/2025 will contain the remedy components.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

The recall condition was corrected in production in June 2025 when the owner's manual was updated.

Reimbursement Plan

Description of reimbursement program:

Reimbursement will follow the plan on file with NHTSA.

Period of reimbursement:

Costs to be reimbursed:

Address for reimbursement claims:

1910 Eastman Ave
Oxnard CA, 93030

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

Dealer and owner notification will be conducted via US Mail once approved by NHTSA within 60 days from submission.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Jul 01, 2025 - Aug 17, 2025 No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: Jul 01, 2025 - Aug 17, 2025 No Owners

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Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:

Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: