



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

26V291

Manufacturer Name: Fontaine Trailer Company

Submission Date: May 07, 2026

NHTSA Recall No.: 26V291

Manufacturer Recall No.:

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Fontaine Trailer Company

Address: 430 Letson Industrial Road
Haleyville AL, 35565

Total number of potentially involved: 247

Estimated percentage with defect: 1%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2025-2026 Fontaine Fusion

Product Category: Trailers

Product Type: Flatbed Trailer

Fuel / Propulsion:

Production Dates: Feb 28, 2025 - Mar 31, 2026

Number of potentially involved: 247

Descriptive Information:

Fontaine Commercial Trailer has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in a group of Fusion (galvanized) trailers. The affected trailers were manufactured using high-strength steel components that were subsequently hot-dip galvanized. Under certain processing conditions, hydrogen may have been introduced into the steel during the galvanizing process, potentially resulting in instances of hydrogen embrittlement.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Under certain processing conditions, hydrogen may have been introduced into the steel during the galvanizing process, that may allow cracks to develop in the trailer's main beams.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

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

While only a small number of trailers have to date exhibited hydrogen embrittlement and those affected

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trailers have continued to operate with observed cracking, continued use may allow cracks to propagate, which could reduce the structural integrity of the trailer's main beams.

Description of the cause:

The affected trailers were manufactured using high-strength steel components that were subsequently hot-dip galvanized. Under certain processing conditions, hydrogen may have been introduced into the steel during the galvanizing process, potentially resulting in instances of hydrogen embrittlement.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

Though it has not yet been observed in the field, if the cracking progresses, it may result in partial or complete fracturing of the main beam under load, potentially leading to loss of load support or structural failure during operation. Such a condition increases the risk of a crash, property damage, or injury.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier: Tier 2

Supplier Type: Other

Name: South Atlantic Galvanizing

Address: 61 County Road 520
Shannon MS, 38868

Country: United States

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Main Beam Flange (Curb Side)

Component Description: Lower Flange

Component Part Number: xxx

Component Name 2: Main Beam Flange (Road Side)

Component Description: Lower Flange

Component Part Number: xxx

Chronology

Fontaine Commercial Trailer received a call from a Fontaine dealer regarding a Fusion (galvanized) trailer exhibiting fracture in the lower main beam flange on 26-FEB-2026. Investigation to determine cause of fracture was initiated. Metallurgical Material Analysis was conducted by 2 independent material test labs.

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Material lab results have concluded that a defect could exist in a group of Fusion (galvanized) trailers. The affected trailers were manufactured using high-strength steel components that were subsequently hot-dip galvanized. Under certain processing conditions, hydrogen may have been introduced into the steel during the galvanizing process, potentially resulting in instances of hydrogen embrittlement.

The affected trailers were manufactured using high-strength steel components that were subsequently hot-dip galvanized. Under certain processing conditions at the vendor, hydrogen may have been introduced into the steel during the galvanizing process, potentially resulting in instances of hydrogen embrittlement.

While only a small number of trailers have to date exhibited hydrogen embrittlement and those affected trailers have continued to operate with observed cracking, continued use may allow cracks to propagate, which could reduce the structural integrity of the trailer's main beams.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Inspect, Replace

Consumer Advisories: ☒ Do Not Drive ☐ Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

The trailers listed in the VIN lists above should be immediately taken out of service and inspected in accordance with the accompanying Technical Service Bulletin. If any cracks are found, the trailers should be returned to Fontaine Trailer in Haleyville, Alabama. and returned to Fontaine Trailer in Haleyville, Alabama. Contact Fontaine Trailer Technical Services at 1-205-485-1304 or warranty@fontainetrailer.net to coordinate the return of any trailers exhibiting cracking or with any questions. Trailers showing signs of hydrogen embrittlement will be replaced with a new trailer at no cost.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

TBD

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

Process controls at the galvanizing facility in addition to revising the steel grade of the beam flanges from 130 ksi Grade to 100 ksi Grade high strength steel avoids the possibility of hydrogen embrittlement.

Reimbursement Plan

Description of reimbursement program:

Trailers showing signs of hydrogen embrittlement will be replaced with a new trailer at no cost.

Period of reimbursement:

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TBD

Costs to be reimbursed:
TBD

Address for reimbursement claims:
430 Letson Road
Haleyville AL, 35565

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

Fontaine Dealer notification letter and inspection schedule: TBD

Planned Dealer Notification Date: May 08, 2026 - May 22, 2026 ☐ No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: May 11, 2026 - May 18, 2026 ☐ No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: May 11, 2026 - May 18, 2026 ☐ Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: