U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report 26V656

Manufacturer Name: Great Dane Trailers
Submission Date: Oct 06, 2026
NHTSA Recall No.: 26V656
Manufacturer Recall No.:

Manufacturer Information

Manufacturer Name: Great Dane Trailers
Address: 602 E Lathrop Avenue
Savannah GA, 31415

Population

Total number of potentially involved: 69
Estimated percentage with defect: 10%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2027-2027 GREAT DANE CHAMPION
Product Category: Trailers
Product Type: Van Trailers
Fuel / Propulsion:
Production Dates: Sep 01, 2026 - Oct 29, 2026
Number of potentially involved: 69

Descriptive Information:
Great Dane has determined that certain 2027 model year Champion dry-vans built in our Terre Haute IN, manufacturing facility, were equipped with hot-dipped galvanized upper couplers where the bottom plate may have been 1/4" instead of 5/16". This would have had led to a mismatch between the kingpin and bottom plate. Seven trailers with mismatched bottom plate and kingpin shipped prior to the discovery of the defect.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Great Dane has determined that certain 2027 model year Champion dry-vans built in our Terre Haute IN, manufacturing facility, were equipped with hot-dipped galvanized upper couplers where the bottom plate may have been 1/4" instead of 5/16" as required by the design. This would have had led to a mismatch between the kingpin and bottom plate. Seven trailers with mismatched bottom plate and kingpin shipped prior to the discovery of the defect.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

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

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King pins that are not correctly matched to the correct bottom plate thickness my protrude further from the plate than specifications allow. This could prevent the truck and trailer from coupling properly and increase the risk of a trailer breakaway increasing the likelihood of severe injury or death.

Description of the cause:

Identification of any warning that can occur:

Fifth-wheel locking jaws not properly engaged when doing a visual check after coupling.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier:

Supplier Type:

Name:

Address:

Country:

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Upper Coupler

Component Description: UC, .31 PLT 36 KPL CHAMP PRGV S/P FW CSTL R-LIP CSTL CHNLS

Component Part Number: 10200237U036331

Chronology

September 29, 2026: Great Dane Manufacturing discovers 5/16" bottom plate coupler components in inventory that should have been used in a previous build and begins to investigate. It is determined that the incorrect components had been used in the previous build and notified, Warranty, Engineering and Quality.

September 29, 2026: Great Dane confirms that 7 trailers with this condition left our manufacturing facility and are being utilized by the customer. Great Dane contacts the customer and requests that all 69 trailers in the population be removed from service and inspected immediately to identify the 7 units with the defect.

October 06, 2026: Great Dane files the initial notice of defect with the NHTSA

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

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Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Replace

Consumer Advisories: ☑ Do Not Drive ☐ Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

Great Dane will pay the customer to inspect the uppercouplers and measure the bottom plate thickness. Any couplers found with the incorrect thickness bottom plates will be replaced under warranty at no cost to the customer. There will be no reimbursement for repairs performed prior to the recall because the trailers are within the warranty period, and covered by the warranty. There is no dealer network for this recall.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

Remedied components will have the correct bottom plate thickness.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

September 29, 2026 inventory audit revealed components that should have been utilized in the previous completed build. All units were already completed with no addition units in production at the time.

Reimbursement Plan

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

All notices will be mailed by December 4, 2026.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: ☑ No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: ☐ No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: Dec 04, 2026 - Dec 04, 2026 ☐ Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: