



03V-043 ① of ②

January 29, 2003

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein (NBF-01)  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street SW  
Washington DC 20990

RECEIVED  
2003 FEB 12 A 8 03  
OFFICE OF DEFECTS  
INVESTIGATION

Subject: **Vehicle Recall**      **03V-043**

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Harrison has informed Pierce that a defect in certain hydraulically driven generators installed on Pierce fire trucks contain a defect that relates to safety. Pierce will be conducting the recall for this item. We therefore furnish notification of a defect to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, *Defect and Noncompliance Reports*.

Manufacturer's Identification Code: 39-0139830

**1. Name of Manufacturer and Corporate contact:**

Pierce Manufacturing Inc.  
Roger Lackore, Director of New Product Development  
Phone: 920 832-3249  
FAX: 920 832-3092  
E-Mail: rlackore@piercemfg.com

**2. Identification of Vehicle Classification:** Pierce Custom chassis shipped between March 1, 2000 and December 1, 2000.

**3. Number of Potentially Affected Vehicles:** 13

**4. Estimated Percentage of Vehicles Containing the Defect or Noncompliance:** Unknown.

**5. Description of the defect or non-compliance:** Harrison has reported the incidence of an hydraulic line failure on a fire truck. It has been determined that the tubing connecting the soft start to the generator pump can break away from the fitting and spray hydraulic fluid onto the exhaust causing a fire that could endanger people in the vicinity, the vehicle itself and nearby property. The Harrison Hydra-Gen models recalled are XD1R0-02/02, XD1R0-03/02 and XD1R0-05/03. Only pumps with the "soft start" system are affected. A soft start is a system designed to reduce the initial surge of engaging the generator by building hydraulic pressure and engaging the generator drive gradually.

**6. Chronology of Principal Events:** The incident of failure occurred on an installation of a Hydra-Gen generator in a competitor's vehicle. Harrison informed Pierce of the incident and asserted that they would be initiating a field campaign. Pierce informed NHTSA of the safety related nature of the incident and NHTSA agreed that a formal recall was required.

**7. Test Results or Data on which the Noncompliance was Determined:** N/A

**8. Corrective Action:** The remedy involves removing two pieces of steel tubing and replacing them with high pressure hose.

**9. Representative Notices:** Enclosed are copies of the notices we have sent or plan on sending to our customers and dealers.

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Pierce Manufacturing, Inc



Roger Lackore, P.E.  
Director of New Product Development