

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹

On March 14, 2012, Aluminum Trailer Company _____ [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. _____) exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: 4/18/2012_____

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 11E - 057_____

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Aluminum Trailer Company_____
306 S. Nappanee St, PO Box 396, Nappanee, IN 46550_____

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Thomas A. Vanderputten, Service and Warranty Manager_____

Telephone Number: 574 - 773 - 8360_____ Fax No.: 574 - 773 - 2471_____

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Thomas A. Vanderputten_____
Service and Warranty Manager_____

Signed:



¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): ATCQST820ta6 Model Years Involved: 2012 Model(s): Quest Car
Hauler _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 11/18/11 Ending: 11/18/11

VIN Range: Beginning: 5JXAE2029CF Ending:
5JXAE2029CE170471

Vehicle Type: Trailer Bodystyle: _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Equipped with electric/hydraulic brake actuator

Make(s): MOTGRSX8550tta7 Model Years Involved: 2012 Model(s): RSX
Gooseneck Car Hauler _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 1/26/12 Ending: 1/26/12

VIN Range: Beginning: 5JXGE5030CS Ending:
5JXGE5030CS194549

Vehicle Type: Trailer Bodystyle: _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Equipped with electric/hydraulic brake actuator

Make(s): _____ Model Years Involved: _____ Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Vehicles equipped with certain items of equipment from

January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Vehicles of all Vehicles manufactured during that time period.

During Model Year involved the Aluminum Trailer Company manufactured approximately 700 trailers.
This recall affects (2) trailers or .003%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
ATCQST820ta6	2012	1
MOTGRSX8550tta7	2012	1

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 2

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: This recall affects only 2 trailers.

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

We received a letter from Jennifer Timian dated March 14 2012. The letter contained information from the Dexter Axle Company identifying electric/hydraulic brake actuator pumps that were subject to recall 11 E – 057.

Our purchasing database showed that we had purchased and installed (2) of the affected model numbers.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

According to the Dexter Axle letter this a condition that can cause premature wear and which can render the unit inoperable.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

According to the Dexter Axle letter this is caused by defective parts.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

According to the Dexter Axle letter this can cause brake failure.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

According to the Dexter Axle letter there is a loss of braking power prior to failure

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Dexter Axle Company

P.O. Box 250, Elkhart, Indiana, 46515

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:
William L. Dunlap, SR. Vice President of Engineering

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

Included with this report is a copy of the Dexter Axle Company letter which identifies their findings pertinent to Recall 11 E – 057.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

We have only (2) trailers that are affected by this recall. Our plan is to notify the retail customers and have them contact Dexter Axle for the repair.

9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

According to the Dexter Axle letter they will install a new electric/hydraulic brake actuator. See Dexter Axle recall letter for recall 11 E – 057.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

According to the Dexter Axle letter this is a new electric/hydraulic brake actuator with the correct parts.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

We only used (2) of the affected electric/hydraulic brake actuators and they were installed on trailers owned by retail customers. No other product was used or scheduled in production.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

We are notifying the (2) retail customers that own the trailers. We have their addresses and we do not anticipate any problems.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

11. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov for review prior to mailing.

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.