

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**<sup>1</sup>

**On June 1, 2012, Tracker Marine, LLC decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety 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 Reports.**

**Date this report was prepared: June 21, 2012**

**Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): TS-0027**

**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.**

Tracker Marine, LLC  
2500 E. Kearney  
Springfield, MO 65898

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

Tricia Cusic  
Advocacy Response Supervisor

**Telephone Number:** 417-873-4588 **Fax No.:** 417-873-5036

**Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.**

Justin Maples  
Technical Writer

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Justin Maples

<sup>1</sup>Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

**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): Trailstar Model Years Involved: 2012-13 Model(s): See below**

**2012 Nitro Z7, Z7 Sport, Z8, Z9, 290 Sport**

**Tahoe Q4, Q5, Q7, Q8, 195, 215, 22**

**2013 Tahoe Q4, Q5, Q7, 195, 215**

**Production Dates: Beginning: 9/28/11 Ending: 5/13/12**

**VIN Range: Beginning: 4TM15AK26CB Ending 4TM45EH23CB**

**Vehicle Type: Trailer Bodystyle: Boat**

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

**The affected units are identified by serial number and production date.**

**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 Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.**

**67%**

## 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
TRL,08N901B1RB	2012	1
TRL,N290SPTA	2012	32
TRL,NZ7	2012	275
TRL,NZ8	2012	204
TRL,NZ9	2012	202
TRL,NZSPORT	2012	102
TRL,Q4SA	2012	18
TRL,Q5SA	2012	31
TRL,Q7TA	2012	20
TRL,Q8TA	2012	5
TRL,TAH195TA	2012	12
TRL,TAH215TA	2012	16
TRL,TAH22TA	2012	5
TRL,Q4SA	2013	75
TRL,Q5SA	2013	92
TRL,Q7TA	2013	10
TRL,TAH215TA	2013	10

**Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 589**

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 53%

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:

The recall population was determined by the date range of affected actuators installed in production. Trailers in the affected date range were quarantined at all Tracker Marine Group locations for inspection/correction. All trailers in the affected date range in the field were identified by dealer location and registered owners.

### **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.**

**A variance in the welded location of a bracket in the actuator shell to which the master cylinder shaft rod is attached does not allow enough return travel to completely release pressure on the hydraulic brake system.**

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

**Manufacturing variance of a bracket welded in the actuator shell inhibits the full range of motion of the master cylinder shaft rod.**

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

**Brakes can overheat at the wheels. Excessive heat may lead to brake failure and/or possible wheel bearing failure.**

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

**Operator may notice brakes on the trailer creating drag and/or smell the brakes overheating.**

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

**Tie Down Engineering, Inc  
5901 Wheaton Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30336  
800-241-1806**

**Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:**

**Dean Samuelson - President**

#### **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.**

**5/10/2012 Drivers pulling transporting trailers between manufacturing plants experienced brakes overheating and report to plant manager at trailer manufacturing plant.**

**5/10/2012 Supplier notified. Quarantine all product and trailers affected. Plan and schedule to correct all trailers in company inventory at all locations.**

**5/24/2012 Corrections to all trailers in company inventory completed.**

**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.**

#### **V. Identify the Remedy**

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

**The recall condition is once the trailer brakes are applied the brakes do not completely release. Replacement of any affected actuators is the remedy.**

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

**Affected actuators are visually identified by 2 specific date codes on the underside of the actuator shell. No other date codes are affected. The affected date codes are #110731 and #110822. If the date code cannot be observed, or is not legible, the test as outlined in the bulletin will identify affected actuators.**

**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.**

**All affect components and trailers were identified and quarantined upon discovery of condition. All affected trailers were inspected and actuators replaced as necessary. All inventory of actuators in the affected date range were quarantined and returned to the supplier.**

## **VI. Identify the Recall Schedule**

**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.**

**Two days after NHTSA approval – Recall notification to be published to TracNet – online Dealer Information Management Site.**

**Three – four days after NHTSA approval – Recall notification dealer packet mailed to dealership**

**Four – five days after NHTSA approval – Recall notification letter to warranty registered consumers to be mailed.**

## **VII. Furnish Recall Communications**

**9. 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) for review prior to mailing.***

**Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.**