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(9 pages)

4400 S. Lewis Blvd. ▪ P.O. Box 6300 ▪ Sioux City, IA 51106-6300  
Phone: 712-252-6500 ▪ Toll Free: 800-798-2002 ▪ Fax: 712-252-6510  
www.wilsontrailer.com ▪ e-mail: sales@wilsontrailer.com

Date

Ms Nancy Lummen Lewis  
Administrator for Enforcement  
NHTSA-NVS-200 Rm W46-421  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Wilson Trailer Company 000058  
Notice of Possible Defect

Dear Ms Lewis

#### REPORT TO NHTSA

1. Manufacturer's Name: Wilson Trailer Company
2. Vehicle Identification: Wilson livestock trailers manufactured from 8/1/2009 – 11/30/2012 with a lift deck in the nose compartment.
3. Total Number of Vehicles Subject to Recall: 361 U.S. Trailers
4. Percentage of Trailers Estimated to be Defective: > 1%
5. Description of Defect: This defect concerns the plastic deck guides on the lift deck in the nose compartment. These plastic guides provide tracking of the deck when it is being raised and lowered. Failure of the guides to provide containment of the deck could allow the deck to shift to one side of the trailer causing the deck to fall past the permanent deck support rails.
6. History of Events: Two (2) trailers have been reported where the lift deck in the nose compartment has fallen past the permanent deck support rails.
7. Description of Remedy: Customer must contact dealer or authorized repair facility so the plastic deck guides can be replaced with a new style guide as well as add spacer blocks to center the deck and also add aluminum extensions to the permanent deck support rails. The inspection, repair, and installation will be provided at no cost.



Customers will be notified of the safety recall by first class mail after receipt of recall number.

8. Copies of Notices, etc: See enclosed Safety Recall Notice and dealer letter, Customer letter, and drawing.

9. Manufacturer's campaign number 524D

Respectfully Submitted,

Clarence Dahl  
Technical Service & Claims Mgr.

Enclosures: Safety recall notice to customer, drawing, & Dealer letter

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

On January 21, 2012, Wilson Trailer Company [MFR] 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 Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: January 29, 2012 \_\_\_\_\_

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 524D \_\_\_\_\_

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.

Wilson Trailer Company 4400 So Lewis Blvd. PO Box 6300 Sioux City, IA 51106

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

Clarence Dahl Technical Service & Warranty Manager

Telephone Number: 712-252-6474 Fax No.: 712-252-6510

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Clarence Dahl, Technical Service & Claims Mgr

Signed:



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

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Ms. Jennifer Timian at (202) 366-0209, by FAX at (202) 366-7882, or by E-Mail to [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov).

**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): Wilson Model Years Involved: 2010 to 2013 Model(s): Livestock

Production Dates: Beginning: 9/1/2009 Ending: 11/30/2012

VIN Range: Beginning: 1W1UCS210AD538675 Ending: 1W16532A4C5542055

Vehicle Type LT Bodystyle: Livestock semi trailer

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

The livestock trailers in this recall have an optional lift deck in the nose compartment.

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:**

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.**

**II. Identify the Recall Population**

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

<b><u>Model</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</u></b>
Livestock (LT) trailers	2010 to 2013	361

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

**4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: > 1%**

**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:**

A change was made to the design of the lift deck guides to ease installation. This change was implemented with trailers in production on 9/1/2009. A determination was made in November 2012 that this design change didn't provide correct containment of the lift deck assembly and the lift deck guide was changed to improve containment on trailers produced after 11/30/2012.

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**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.**

The plastic lift deck guide didn't provide positive containment of the lift deck on the vertical guide rails on the side of the trailer in the nose compartment.

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

Due to variation in installation on the deck assembly and the design of the plastic guide, repeatable containment wasn't achieved.

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

Failure of the plastic deck guide to provide containment could allow the deck assembly to shift to one side in the nose compartment which could allow the deck to fall past the permanent deck support.

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

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

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

**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.**

#6 Following an occurrence in November 2012, of a lift deck in the nose compartment of a livestock trailer falling past the permanent deck supports, a thorough investigation was conducted. This investigation concluded the plastic deck guides on the lift deck assembly didn't provide correct containment. This incorrect containment allowed the deck to slip to one side and fall past the permanent deck supports. This style plastic deck guide was implemented in September 2009.

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**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.**

Wilson Trailer Company will at no cost to the trailer owner, install new plastic deck guides, install spacer blocks to center the lift deck, and install extensions on permanent deck supports.

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**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.**

The originally installed plastic deck guides will be removed and replaced with a heavier design plastic deck guide with a deeper notch to provide better containment on the vertical deck guides on the inside walls of the nose compartment. In addition to these guides, four spacer blocks will be installed to center the deck and extensions will be added to the permanent deck supports.

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

The originally installed plastic deck guide was a ¼" thick x 2" wide x 5" long UHMW plastic strap with a .500 deep notch centered on the 5" side of the strip. These were located in four places on the deck. This has been replaced by a ½" x 2 ¼" x 6 ½" UHMW plastic block with a .700 deep notch centered on the 6 ½" side of the block. This also will be located in four places on the deck.

**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.**

Once the determination was made of the defect in November, 2012, the remedy identified in the recall was implemented 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.**

Once recall identification numbers are received, Wilson Trailer Company will notify dealers and customers of the defect and remedy.

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### **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.**