



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 8, 2013

Mr. Dan Hill
Quality Control Manager
Fontaine Heavy-Haul
5398 US Highway 11
Springville, AL 35146

NVS-215KS
13V-076

Subject: Gooseneck to Deck Combo Eye Plate Cracks

Dear Mr. Hill:

This letter serves to acknowledge Fontaine Heavy-Haul's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

FONTAINE/RENEGADE LX40/2013
FONTAINE/RENEGADE LXT40/2013

Mfr's Report Date: February 15, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-076

Components:

EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 78

Problem Description:

Fontaine Trailer Company, dba Fontaine Heavy-Haul, is recalling certain model year 2013 Renegade LX40 and LXT40 lowbed trailers manufactured between August 2012 and November 2012. The combo eye plate that connects the gooseneck portion of the trailer to the deck portion of the trailer may crack and ultimately fracture and thereby fail to maintain the load carrying capabilities as designed.

Consequence:

In the event of a combo eye plate crack and failure, the deck of the trailer could tilt and impact the highway, stopping the vehicle unexpectedly, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Fontaine Heavy-Haul will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and replace any defective components free of charge. The recall is expected to begin during March 2013. Owners may contact Fontaine Heavy-Haul at 1-866-382-7278, option 2, ext. 819.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

We have received Fontaine Heavy-Haul's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement