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October 22, 2003

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Washington, DC 20590

03V-441 ①of②

Dear Sir or Madam:

In accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 -- Defect and Noncompliance Reports, I am notifying you that Hackney a division of Specialized Vehicles Corporation has discovered a noncompliance with a motor vehicle safety standard in some vehicles they have completed. This noncompliance involves omission of continuous electrical power to the antilock brake system. Listed below is the report required by § 573.5 (c) :

§ 573.5 (c)

- (1) Manufacturer's name
Hackney a division of Specialized Vehicles Corporation
400 Hackney Avenue, PO Box 880
Washington, NC 27889
252.946.6521
252.975.8340 FAX
- (2) Identification of vehicles potentially containing noncompliance
The vehicles involved are Hackney trailers which are pulled by another trailer (double trailers). Date of manufacture is December 2002 through June 2003.
- (3) Total number of vehicles potentially containing noncompliance
28 trailers.
- (4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain noncompliance
100%.
- (5) Description of noncompliance
FMVSS 121 requires vehicles which tow another air-braked vehicle to provide continuous electrical power to the antilock system of the towed vehicle. This continuous power is not provided to the rear electrical connector on the towing vehicle.

(6) Not applicable

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(7) Basis for existence of noncompliance

On October 20, 2003, an engineering review of the vehicle design revealed the nonexistence of continuous power on a trailer towed by another trailer.

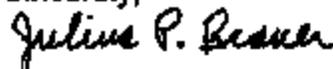
(8) Description of program for remedying noncompliance

Compose a written notification that meets the requirements of 49 CFR 577, send it to the Office of Defects Investigation for approval, then after approval mail it to vehicle owners. Owners will be told that the required continuous power was not provided to the rear electrical connector on the vehicles, that Hackney will furnish an add-on wiring harness to provide this power, and that Hackney will reimburse a fixed amount for installation labor. The estimated starting date for mailing to owners is December 1, 2003, and the estimated completion date is December 3, 2003.

Trailers currently in production that are designed to tow another trailer are having continuous electrical power provided at the rear connector.

If you require additional information, please phone me at 252-946-6521, fax me at 252-975-8342, or email me at jbrauer@hackneyusa.com.

Sincerely,



Julius P. Brauer, P.E.
Manager
Trailer Products

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