

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

On October 2, 2013 Altec Industries Inc decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicle equipment 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: **October 14, 2013**

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): **CSN 581**

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.

Altec Industries, Inc.

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

Joshua T. Chard
Director, Corporate and Product Safety

Telephone Number: **205-408-8627** Fax No.: **205-981-3733**

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Philip D. Purdy
Manager, Technical Publications

Signed: _____

I. Identify the Recalled Items of Equipment

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

Generic name of the item: **Wood Chipper**

Make(s): **Altec** Model Years Involved: **2008 - 2010** Model(s): **WC126/166**

Production Dates: Beginning: **January 2008** Ending: **October 2010**

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

<u>Model</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</u>
WC126/166	2008- 2010	682

Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: **50 %**

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 reviewing manufacturing records to identify units built between 2008 and 2010.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

Describe the defect or noncompliance.

Over time, the bracket attaching the axle to the chipper frame may develop cracks.

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

N/A

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

4. 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.

In early 2012, we received reports of cracked axle mounting brackets. Additional reports were received later in the year. We investigated the situation to determine the cause. Once the analysis and testing was complete, we concluded that the axle specification used on the chipper was not per the supplier recommendations and impose high stress in the bracket area leading to cracks. No complete axle failures or accidents have been reported.

V. Identify the Remedy

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

Altec will issue a recall letter (CSN 581) to owners of all affected units informing them to inspect for cracks and to replace any axles with cracked mounting brackets.

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

The design specifications of the replacement axle were changed.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

6. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification.

Customer notification estimated to be the week of October 28, 2013.