

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

On September 19, 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: **September 25, 2013**

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): **CSN 583**

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: Aerial Device

Make(s): **Altec** Model Years Involved: **2010 - 2013** Model(s): **AT200A, AT235/235P, AT30/35/37/40-G and AT237 Mounted on Ford Super Duty Chassis with 6.8L gas engine and Muncie FR67 PTO**

Production Dates: Beginning: January 2010 Ending: September 2013

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>
AT200A	2010 - 2013	298
AT235/AT235P	2010 - 2013	614
AT30/35/37/40-G	2010 - 2013	189
AT237	2010 - 2013	<u>44</u>
		1145

Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100 %

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 with effected Muncie FR67 PTOs.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

Describe the defect or noncompliance.

Over time, oil leaking from the PTO pressure switch onto a thermal blanket may cause a fire.

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

Muncie Power Products, Inc.
201 East Jackson Street Suite 500
Muncie, IN 47305

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 October 2012, a customer reported a fire during road travel of indeterminate cause. The fire was investigated but root cause was not determined at that time. In late January a second report of smoke under the chassis during travel of an effected unit was reported. Altec associates with representatives from Muncie investigated and a pressure switch was found to be leaking and identified as a possible source of fuel for a fire. In July 2013 an additional fire was reported and although the root cause was not immediately determined, the pressure switch was suspected to be leaking onto the thermal blanket covering the exhaust. During July and August Altec continued to work with its supplier of these components, providing information and access to units for inspection. In August Altec received a letter from Muncie which it believes identifies a root cause requiring action. (Document Attached)

There have been no reports of injuries.

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 583) to owners of all affected units passing on the Muncie provided documents and informing them to: inspect for leaks on the unit and to replace the effected pressure switch and thermal blanket with the kit identified by Muncie.

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

See Muncie document

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

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

Customer notification estimated to be the week of November 4, 2013.



**MUNCIE POWER
PRODUCTS, INC**
Corporate Headquarters

201 East Jackson St • Suite 500
Post Office Box 548
Muncie Indiana 47308-0548

phone 765 284 7721
fax 765 751 9506
email info@munciepower.com

August 21, 2013

Re: Ford Super Duty Chassis with 6.8L gas engine and Muncie FR67 Series PTO

Dear Customer:

Please review the included information on the Ford Super Duty F350-F550 Chassis with the 6.8L gas engines, equipped with a Muncie FR67 Series PTO.

Muncie Power Products has recently become aware that the original provided thermal blanket, part number 49TK4860, can deteriorate over time and lose some of its thermal barrier properties. It is the thermal blanket manufacturer's recommendation that it be considered a serviceable item needing regular maintenance requiring replacement should it show signs of deterioration. Depending on the equipment's operation and time in service, this could vary from vehicle to vehicle. Inspection during regular oil change intervals would be the best time to review its condition and replace as needed. We are evaluating designs for a more robust solution for this application. Please watch for future announcements in this area.

We have also found that the pressure switch, part number 30T37594, can see high temperatures that can cause the internal diaphragm to potentially become hard or even brittle versus when new. Should this occur, some transmission fluid could seep through the construction screw thread on the side of the switch body. It is Muncie's recommendation that the switch and tube assembly be replaced with kit part number 43TK5510. This kit contains a new switch with an alternative diaphragm material more suited to this particular application. In addition, the original tube is replaced with a high temperature hose assembly that allows the switch to be relocated further away from exhaust heat.

Vocational trucks have many bolted joints and connections typically associated with the auxiliary power and hydraulic portion of the equipment. Truck Body Builders standard maintenance practices should always recommend periodic inspection for leaks and correction. During the above described servicing, Muncie recommends inspection for any leaks that could cause fluids (engine, transmission, and hydraulic oils) to make contact with the exhaust system, and to make any appropriate repairs.

During the course of your standard maintenance practice on the above, the hydraulic pump should be loosened from the PTO, and both the PTO and Pump shaft seals should be inspected for leaks. Make appropriate repairs if needed.



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fax 765 751 9506

email info@munciepower.com

The above combination of a thermal blanket with a deteriorated surface and the possibility of the seepage of fluids could result in the heat blanket material absorbing these fluids over time. Once again, we recommend you follow the Truck Body Builders standard maintenance practices with the inspection for leaks, proper replacement of service type items and making any needed corrections.

The PTO's for this application are under the following part numbers and would be applicable to the above recommendations:

FR67-F1506-G4NX

FR67-F1506-F4NX

FR67-F1506-R4NX

Please note that none of the above parts or components are considered defective or in non-compliance to any original specifications, but have been enhanced to provide longer, more satisfactory service than the original items.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may create. We advise that you and/or your customers follow the recommendations as outlined.

If you have any questions or need additional support, please don't hesitate to contact us at 1-800-367-7867 or 765-284-7721.

Regards,

MUNCIE POWER PRODUCTS, INC.