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By RMD at 11:48 am, Jun 30, 2014



June 27, 2014

Ms. Nancy Lummen Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Defect Information Report; S&S Truck Parts, Inc.

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Through the undersigned, S&S Truck Parts, Inc. ("S&S"), is submitting the enclosed Defect Information Report pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.

S&S has determined that certain aftermarket drag link assemblies (DLA) that it imported were not manufactured to the proper specifications and therefore cannot be installed properly on the vehicles for which they are intended. If a mechanic forces the installation of one of these DLAs, it can result in a failure of the steering system, which could lead to a loss of control and possibly result in a crash. S&S has decided to conduct a safety recall to address this issue.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned by e-mail at [rhoffman@sandstruck.com](mailto:rhoffman@sandstruck.com) or by telephone at (847)-584-2000 ext. 2136.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard M. Hoffman", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Richard M. Hoffman  
Executive Vice-President  
Corporate Headquarters

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Kenneth Weinstein

[WWW.SANDSTRUCK.COM](http://WWW.SANDSTRUCK.COM)



**ILLINOIS (CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS)**

600 W. Irving Park Road, Schaumburg, IL 60193  
T: 847.584.2000 | F: 800.621.1558

**CALIFORNIA**

5200 Ontario Mills Pkwy, Suite 100, Ontario, CA 91764  
T: 909.481.8111 | F: 909.481.8555

**NORTH CAROLINA**

5320 Departure Drive, Raleigh, NC 27616  
T: 919.876.4206 | F: 919.872.2836

**TEXAS**

1401 Valley View Lane, Suite 135, Irving, TX 75061  
T: 972.986.5400 | F: 972.986.9333

ISO 9001:2008  
CERTIFIED

## DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

### 1. Manufacturer's name/address:

The fabricating manufacturer of the equipment items covered by this report is:

**Aydınlr Yedek Parça San. Tic. A.Ş. (AYD)**  
**Konya Organize Sanayi Bölgesi**  
**İhsandede Cad. No:7**  
**Selcuklu Konya**  
**Turkey**

The items were imported into the United States by:

**S&S Truck Parts, Inc.**  
**600 W. Irving Park Road**  
**Schaumburg, IL 60193**

### 2. Equipment involved in this defect notification:

The involved items are NEWSTAR brand aftermarket drag link assemblies ("DLA") sold in the aftermarket for use on certain Kenworth and Peterbilt trucks. The part number is S-22084.

Only one discrete batch of DLAs is involved. That batch was imported in March 2014.

None of these DLAs were sold for use as original equipment on new motor vehicles.

### 3. Total number of items of equipment:

109 DLAs were sold by S&S.

### 4. Approximate percentage of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect:

100 percent.

### 5. Description of the defect:

The subject DLAs were not manufactured to the proper specifications and therefore cannot be installed properly on the vehicles for which they are intended. If a mechanic forces the installation of one of these DLAs, it can result in a failure of the steering system, which could lead to a loss of control and possibly result in a crash.

**6. Chronological summary of events leading to this determination:**

In late April 2014, S&S received a report from its primary customer that one of the DLA units it had resold did not fit properly and was not installed. The non-fitting unit was returned to S&S via UPS NDA for investigation and the primary customer was advised to hold the rest of its stock of DLAs until S&S investigated the issue

Shortly thereafter, S&S received three additional reports of problems with the DLA units from its other customers, including reports of steering failures.

Based on those reports, S&S determined that this batch of DLAs could contain a safety-related defect and advised all of its customers to cease resale or use of this DLA

**7. Program for remedying the defect (including schedule for dealer and owner notification):**

S&S has not sold any of the subject DLAs to retail consumers; rather, it distributed the DLAs to six customers that sell them to truck operators. S&S has stopped shipments of the subject DLAs, and it has requested its customers to return any unsold inventory. Most of the covered items have already been returned or quarantined by S&S's customers. S&S will work with its customers to identify vehicles on which the covered DLAs were installed. All identified retail purchasers of the subject DLAs will be notified of the defect, and the subject DLAs will be replaced, with no charge for parts or labor.

Formal notification of customers can begin promptly, as soon as the Office of Defects investigation approves S&S's draft owner notification letter, which is enclosed. S&S does not plan to advise owners with respect to potential reimbursement pursuant to 49 CFR 573.11 because the subject DLAs are all still under warranty.