



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

October 8, 2015

Ms. Beth Filer  
CFO  
Merhow Acquisition, LLC  
617 S. Miller St  
White Pigeon, MI 49099

NVS-215KS  
15V-601

**Subject:** Interior Side Door Lock May Become Inoperable

Dear Ms. Filer:

This letter serves to acknowledge Merhow Acquisition, LLC'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:**

MERHOW/HORSE TRAILERS/2006-2013

**Mfr's Report Date:** September 23, 2015

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 15V-601

**Components:**

LATCHES/LOCKS/LINKAGES

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 178

**Problem Description:**

Merhow Acquisition, LLC (Merhow) is recalling certain model year 2006-2013 Horse Trailers equipped with a Fastec-brand door lock. It may be possible to remove the key from the lock in a way that potentially jams the deadbolt.

**Consequence:**

If the deadbolt jams, the interior side of the door lock may also jam. A person inside the trailer at the time will then be locked in and be unable to exit the vehicle without using the emergency exit, increasing the risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

Merhow has notified owners, and Fastec will coordinate the inspection and replacement of the cylinders, as needed, free of charge. The recall began in December 2013. Owners may contact Merhow customer service at 1-269-483-0010, or Fastec customer service at 1-800-837-2505.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a copy of owner notification letter that Fastec mailed on your behalf as well as copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall.

We understand that Fastec will be submitting the required quarterly recall completion rate reports.

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](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto: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 a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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