

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On **September 15, 2008**, **Advanced Power Systems Inc[MFR]** decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. _____) exists in items of 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 26, 2008

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): _____

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer/brand name/trademark owner of the recalled item of equipment. If the recalled item of equipment is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Advanced Power Systems Inc – 339 Main Street – Torrington, CT 06790

Brand name of product: Fitch Fuel Catalyst

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

Nora Hewitt – Vice President -

Telephone Number: 860-496-7776 Fax No.: 860-496-7626

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Nora Hewitt – Vice President

Signed: 

¹Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210, by FAX at (202) 366-7882, or E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov.

I. Identify the Recalled Items of Equipment

2. Identify the Items of Equipment Involved in this Recall, for each make and model or applicable item of equipment product line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the item of equipment), provide:

Generic name of the item: Fitch Fuel Catalyst

Function: In line fuel treatment device

Models that may be affected:

F3424, F3436, F3624, F3624-T, F36288, F3636, F3824, F3836, F38G24, F4424B, F4436B, F4624B, F4624TB, F4636, F46G24B, F4824B, F48G24B, F5624B, F56G24B, F5836B, F58G24B, F75424B, F75836B, F75624B, F75624BP, F75636BP, F756G24B, F75824BP, F75836BP, F758186BD, F7582028BD, F75836BD, F75824BC, F7582618BC, F758G24B, F756242BC, F1006242BC, F100624BP, F100824BP, F1008186BD, F1002028BD, F10082618BC, F100824BC

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

These are 5/16" and 3/8" fuel hoses supplied by GATES Corporation – BARRICADE brand name stamped on the outside of the fuel lines. These hoses were sold to our customers as part of our product line during July 1st – August 31st, 2008. We expect that 25% of the kits sold during this period may have a potential issue.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Equipment equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996, through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Equipment of all Equipment manufactured during that time period.

II. Identifying the Recall Population

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

<u>Model</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Items Potentially Involved</u>
All Models listed above	2008	500

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 2000

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 25%

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 items of equipment: All production during the time frame of July 1st – August 31st may have used this hose but we were also selling our customers 2 other Brand Name hoses during the same time. The other two hose brands are not affected by this recall. We have identified the consumers that will receive upgraded hoses and we have already replaced 76 kits. _____

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

We were contacted on July 15th, by the supplier of the hose – Gates Corporation regarding one specific lot of fuel hose that had a potential issue. This prompted our first recall. (see attached). We successfully completed this recall and replaced the hoses for our customers. We (Gates & APSI) mutually feel the Barricade hose does not comply with our requirements and recommend a proactive replacement program to avoid any potential issue in the future.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

The Barricade fuel hose may have the potential of having a thin wall.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

There is a possibility of a potential rupture to the fuel hose

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

Engine may stop running due to lack of fuel pressure.

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

Gates Corporation

1551 Wewatta St. Denver, CO 80217

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Michael Comody – Manager Quality Control

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. 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.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

APSI conducted a full recall on a previous Barricade hose supplied to APSI in June 2008 – Lot # CSO 030108 1XA. During our efforts to complete this 1st recall, our office received more calls from customers with Gates Barricade hose, with different lot numbers than the first recall. They complained of smelling fuel or had small leaks in the fuel lines. We stopped using the GATES Barricade hose as of August 18th, 2008 and sent ALL Barricade hose that had not been used, back to GATES Corporation. We have since identified the amount of hose in the market place during this period and are beginning our replacement hose program.

V. Identify the Remedy

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

Based on the amount of unused Barricade fuel hose that was returned to GATES, we have identified The potential kits potentially affected and plan to supply replacement hoses, manufactured by

DAYCO, to all customers that purchased any of the models listed above.

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

We have switch 100% to DAYCO hose which is clearly identified by lot numbers. We have used DAYCO hose in the past with absolutely no issues at all.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

As mentioned above, we have stopped using GATES Barricade hose altogether and have switched to Dayco manufactured hose.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

We began sending replacement hoses and notifications to customers on September 15th and we continue with this program daily. We are contacting our Distributors and Dealer for consumer lists so we can replace the hoses directly with the customer.

We anticipate replacement of fuel hoses to all customers directly or through a distributor or dealer by October 31st, 2008.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) or by E-Mail (RMD.ODI@dot.gov) for review prior to mailing.

Note: These documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.