

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 18E-011

**Manufacturer Name :** RockyMounts, Inc.**Submission Date :** MAR 01, 2018**NHTSA Recall No. :** 18E-011**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : RockyMounts, Inc.

Address : 2845 29th St.

Unit B Boulder CO 80301

Company phone : 303-402-0190

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 565

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

**Equipment Information :**

Brand / Trade 1 : RockyMounts

Model : Split Rail 1.25"

Part No. : 11300

Size : NR

Function : Bike Rack

**Descriptive Information :** We received a few complaints about welds cracking on our SplitRail model. The weld in question joins the hitch tube (the part that enters the vehicle hitch) to the folding pivot bracket at the 90 degree intersection. The welds on these returned products had started to crack. Most of the customers noticed the crack, and contacted us before the weld failed. We began looking at the problem and found a potential welding defect in some of the models where the weld penetration was not sufficient. We tracked the problem and replaced the components for customers that contacted us. We ultimately had one rack fail, resulting in bicycle damage and decided to recall the potentially defective component. The racks that are effected have no revision marker on the face plate, the updated versions are labelled Rev H, Rev I or Rev J.

Production Dates : APR 01, 2016 - AUG 31, 2017

Brand / Trade 2 : RockyMounts

Model : MonoRail 2"

Part No. : 10004

Size : NR

Function : Bike Rack

**Descriptive Information :** We received a few complaints about welds cracking on our MonoRail model. The weld in question joins the hitch tube (the part that enters the vehicle hitch) to the folding pivot bracket at the 90 degree intersection. The welds on these returned products had started to crack. Most of the customers noticed the crack, and contacted us before the weld failed. We began looking at the problem and found a

potential welding defect in some of the models where the weld penetration was not sufficient. We tracked the problem and replaced the components for customers that contacted us. We ultimately had one rack fail, resulting in bicycle damage and decided to recall the potentially defective component. The racks that are effected have no revision marker on the face plate, the updated versions are labelled Rev H, Rev I or Rev J.

Production Dates : NOV 01, 2016 - JUL 31, 2017

Brand / Trade 3 : RockyMounts

Model : SplitRail 2"

Part No. : 11400

Size : NR

Function : Bike Rack

Descriptive Information : We received a few complaints about welds cracking on our SplitRail model. The weld in question joins the hitch tube (the part that enters the vehicle hitch) to the folding pivot bracket at the 90 degree intersection. The welds on these returned products had started to crack. Most of the customers noticed the crack, and contacted us before the weld failed. We began looking at the problem and found a potential welding defect in some of the models where the weld penetration was not sufficient. We tracked the problem and replaced the components for customers that contacted us. We ultimately had one rack fail, resulting in bicycle damage and decided to recall the potentially defective component. The racks that are effected have no revision marker on the face plate, the updated versions are labelled Rev H, Rev I or Rev J.

Production Dates : MAR 23, 2016 - AUG 31, 2017

Brand / Trade 4 : RockyMounts

Model : MonoRail 1.25"

Part No. : 10003

Size : NR

Function : Bike Rack

Descriptive Information : We received a few complaints about welds cracking on our MonoRail model. The weld in question joins the hitch tube (the part that enters the vehicle hitch) to the folding pivot bracket at the 90 degree intersection. The welds on these returned products had started to crack. Most of the customers noticed the crack, and contacted us before the weld failed. We began looking at the problem and found a potential welding defect in some of the models where the weld penetration was not sufficient. We tracked the problem and replaced the components for customers that contacted us. We ultimately had one rack fail, resulting in bicycle damage and decided to recall the potentially defective component. The racks that are effected have no revision marker on the face plate, the updated versions are labelled Rev H, Rev I or Rev J.

Production Dates : NOV 01, 2016 - JUL 31, 2017

**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Welding defect that attaches the hitch tube to the pivot bracket.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In all but one of the effected models, the consumer noticed a crack and we replaced the component. If the weld fails, the upper half of the rack with bicycles could detach from the car. We sold 2,200 total racks that could be effected between four part #s and have had cracks develop in 6 pcs, a .002 failure rate.

Description of the Cause : Welding defect.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Any cracking in the weld.

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : Quark Mechanical

Address : No. 888 Futuo Rd

Daqi St. Beliun Ningbo FOREIGN STATES 315806

Country : China

**Chronology :**

We had a limited number of welds crack and were notified by customers. We replaced the bases of customers who had cracks. After we received a total of 5 pcs, we began to closely monitor the situation. We made a decision that if the problem worsened or there was a failure resulting in bicycle damage, we would begin a recall. We had a customer driving off-road and the rack failed with three bicycles. We warn users that off road driving is not recommended as it can apply extreme force to the structure. Although the user was driving off road, we decided we can make improvements to the rack to eliminate these problems.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : We made two changes to the rack. We increased the bend radius of a stamped steel part to minimize the a potential stress riser and also thickened the material wall.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The recalled models were first generation and do not have a revision marker (see recall notice draft). The improved models had a revision marker on the face plate.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : We met with the factory to implement the changes in wall thickness to the tubing and bend radius in the stamping.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : We plan on notifying our dealers or resellers first, followed by press releases to our industry and notification or end users. We plan on email, social media and letters.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 22, 2018 - MAR 22, 2019

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 23, 2018 - MAR 23, 2019

## Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

\* NR - Not Reported