



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 15, 2018

Mr. Kevin White
Global Quality Systems
Meritor, Inc.
2135 West Maple
Troy, MI 48084

NEF-150MR
18E-058

Subject: Improper Heat Treatment of Wheel Studs

Dear Mr. White:

This letter serves to acknowledge Meritor, Inc.'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:
MERITOR/WHEEL STUD/9999

Mfr's Report Date: July 20, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18E-058

Components:
WHEELS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3,300

Problem Description:

Meritor, Inc. (Meritor) is recalling certain Wheel Studs, part number 09001988, installed in steer axle hubs. The wheel studs may have not been properly heat treated causing them to fail.

Consequence:

If enough of the improperly heat treated studs fail on the same steer axle hub, the wheel may detach, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Meritor has notified the purchasers of the affected hubs, and those vehicle manufacturers will replace the wheel studs or replace the entire hub, free of charge. The recall began July 30, 2018. Owners may contact Meritor customer service at 1-866-668-7221.

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.

During the initial discussion of this issue, Meritor was attempting to verify that all of the affected studs/hubs were quarantined prior to the vehicles being built and delivered to customers. Please provide an update to your investigation.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov or through the office email at 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 large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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