



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

September 25, 2018

Mr. John Logan  
VP  
AXN Heavy Duty LLC  
5534 National Turnpike  
Louisville, KY 40214

NEF-150MR  
18E-088

**Subject:** Wheel End Separation from Axle

Dear Mr. Logan:

This letter serves to acknowledge AXN Heavy Duty 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:**

AXN/TRAILER AXLE/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** September 5, 2018

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 18E-088

**Components:**

SUSPENSION:REAR:AXLE:NON-POWERED AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,569

**Problem Description:**

AXN Heavy Duty LLC (AXN) is recalling certain Trailer Axles. The wheel end nut locking device on these trailers may not be properly installed, allowing the wheel end to separate from the axle.

**Consequence:**

If the wheel end separates from the axle, it can increase the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

AXN has notified the trailer manufacturers that purchased the axles, and dealers for those manufacturers will inspect the locking clip to ensure its proper installation, correcting it as necessary, free of charge. The recall began on August 29, 2018. Owners may contact AXN customer service at 1-502-882-9122.

**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 provide percentage of products estimated to contain the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(4)).

Your company manufacturers trailer axles, therefore the products in your recall filing should be the axles and their part numbers, not the wheel-end locking assembly.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall 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.

The information in your report suggests that AXN may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. Please be reminded that under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. 49 CFR 573.6

Please identify whether AXN will be submitting the required six quarterly recall completion rate reports (49 CFR 573.7) or if the vehicle manufacturers will be submitting them.

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,



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