



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 28, 2018

Mr. Tom Lilly
Kaufman Trailers of NE, Inc.
706 North Silver St.
Lexington, NC 27292

NEF-150MR
18V-126

Subject: Axle Spindle Failure

Dear Mr. Lilly:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kaufman Trailers of NE, 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:

KAUFMAN/DOUBLE DECK CAR HAULER/2018

Mfr's Report Date: February 20, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-126

Components:

SUSPENSION:REAR:AXLE:SPINDLE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 81

Problem Description:

Kaufman Trailers of NC, Inc. (Kaufman) is recalling certain 2018 Kaufman Double Deck Car Hauler trailers, model numbers FE-3/7K-44 and FE-3/7K-47. The axles may have incorrect spindles which may fail, resulting in the detachment of a wheel and hub from the trailer.

Consequence:

A wheel and hub detachment increases the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Kaufman will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the axles and replace any axles that have incorrect spindles, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in early March 2018. Owners may contact Kaufman customer service at 1-336-790-2756 or 1-336-790-6800.

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.

We have received Kaufman's proposed owner notification letter and have approved it for distribution.

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 required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

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,



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