



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 11, 2019

Mr. Simas Baliukonis
Hercules Enterprises
321 Valley Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

NEF-150MR
19V-346

Subject: Disengaged/Uninstalled Axle Nut Locking Tab

Dear Mr. Baliukonis:

This letter serves to acknowledge Hercules Enterprises'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:

HERCULES ENTERPRISES/CONTAINER CHASSIS/2018

Mfr's Report Date: May 7, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19V-346

Components:

SUSPENSION:REAR:AXLE:NON-POWERED AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 160

Problem Description:

Hercules Enterprises is recalling certain 2018 Hercules CH40GN 18047 trailers. The wheel end nut locking device on these trailers may not be properly installed, allowing the wheel end to separate from the axle.

Consequence:

A wheel detachment increases the risk of crash.

Remedy:

According to Hercules Enterprises, all of the affected axles have been repaired. Owners may contact Hercules Enterprises customer service at 1-908-369-0000.

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.

NHTSA is missing critical, required information for this safety recall. This information must be supplied through the NHTSA Recalls Portal within 5 working days of confirming its accuracy:

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



- A statement that the defect or noncompliance can cause a vehicle crash without prior warning; or a description of whatever prior warning may occur, and a statement that if this warning is not heeded, a vehicle crash can occur (49 CFR 577.5 (f)(1)).
- A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(i)).
- Your company must supply the estimated date(s) for which it notified owners regarding this safety recall.

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.

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. If all of the affected vehicles have been repaired, one quarterly report is due from either your company or AXN, stating a 100% completion rate.

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. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Joshua Neff
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement