

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 19V-588

**Manufacturer Name :** VanLeigh RV

**Submission Date :** AUG 12, 2019

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19V-588

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR



## Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** VanLeigh RV

**Address :** P.O. Box 445

Burnsville MS 38833

**Company phone :** 612-4040

## Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 1,808

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 99 %

## Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2015-2019 Vanleigh Vilano and Beacon 5th Wheels

**Vehicle Type :** TRAILERS

**Body Style :** OTHER

**Power Train :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** The population beginning boundary is the 1st unit built and the ending boundary is the last month that shackle length was supplied to us from Lippert Components, Inc.

**Production Dates :** JUN 25, 2015 - JUN 29, 2018

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :** 1V9FC3920FV206001 **End :** 7HHFC392XKV190123  Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** Failure of the 2.25" Lippert Components, Inc. supplied suspension shackle eye on our Vilano and Beacon 5th Wheel RVs.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** The failure of the 2.25" shackle occurs on our 5th Wheel RV and may leave the towed 5th wheel on the roadside until the new 3.13" shackles can be installed.

**Description of the Cause :** The 2.25" shackle with hanger spacing of 30.5" limited the articulation of the equalizer. This could lock the suspension and not allow accurate transfer of load from one axle to the other. Transferring of load from one to the other occurs when the shackle can rotate and the shorter shackle inhibits that rotation and applies additional stress onto the shackle link. The reason it is only the 2.25" shackle is due to the longer shackle allowing the movement needed when combined with hanger spacing of 30 1/2". The data supplied to us by Van Leigh of field issues led LCI to investigate further and determine the 2.25" shackle used with hanger spacing of 30 1/2" caused failures to occur.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None known

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Lippert Components, Inc.  
Address : 3501 County Road 6 East  
Elkhart INDIANA 46514  
Country : United States

## Chronology :

On 05/31/2019 we brought the issue back to Lippert asking for clarity of the issue and the resolution.  
On 06022019 Lippert asked for failed material for analysis  
On 06102019 Vanleigh held a teleconference with Lippert expressing our concern for the number of failures of the shackle that we had been made aware of. Vanleigh shared with Lippert that we wanted to send a customer notification out to combat the concern. Lippert agreed to assist with that request.  
On 07122019 Held another teleconference with Lippert personell. They explained that they were working on the project and beleived that it needed the involvement of their engineering team.  
On 07252019 We received an update call from Pamela VanderMel where is descirbed the issue. Pamela shared that it was up to us to submit, but shared that Lippert would support if we chose to chase the units affected.  
On 07292019 Held a teleconference with Pamela Vandermel where she described the review / assessment from the Lippert engineering team. Pamela also provided the description of the cause and change date information.  
On 0802/2019 Vanleigh investigated the change on our side, looking to see if we captured the shackle change with a ECN. We did not capture this information, but could run a population report including the month where Lippert Components, Inc. made the change.  
On 08022019 attempted to create a NHTSA log in to complete the defect report. Received a rejected request and that a Liz Jones at the Tiffin Motorhomes plant would have to invite me. Contact was made with Liz and we spent more that a week attempting to work through the NHTSA Recall Portal Invite request process, including but not limited to contacts with both Sarah Shiver and Jennifer Kruger. It would appear that there was a glitch with the Invite submission process as it was turned over to the NHTSA IT Staff.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Remove all 2.25" shackles from Vanleigh 2015 - 2019 model year 5th wheels and replace them with 3.13" shackles. Lippert Components, Inc. will pay for or reimburse Vanleigh for the replacement costs and will provide the material at no cost.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** Working Length Measurement: The old (defective) part can be measured between the hole centerlines with a working length of 2.25". The replacement shackle can be measured using the same method and the working length is 3.13".

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** On or directly prior to 07012018, Vanleigh began to use the 3.13" shackle supplied by Lippert Components, Inc. The change was a running change that occurred in June of 2018.

## Recall Schedule :

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Submit a letter to our dealers advising them of the up-and-coming shackle replacement plan, then send out our initial mailing to our registered owners of the affected population.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** AUG 16, 2019 - AUG 19, 2019

**Planned Owner Notification Date :** AUG 19, 2019 - AUG 23, 2019

\* NR - Not Reported