



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 18, 2020

Ms. Jo Le Milledge
Vermeer Manufacturing Company
1210 Vermeer Road East
Pella, IA 50219

NEF-150MR
20V-344

Subject: Wheel Lug Nuts May Loosen

Dear Ms. Milledge:

This letter serves to acknowledge Vermeer Manufacturing Company'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:

VERMEER/BC1200XL/2020
VERMEER/BC1500/2020

Mfr's Report Date: June 11, 2020

NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-344

Components:

WHEELS:LUGS/NUTS/BOLTS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 0

Problem Description:

Vermeer Manufacturing Company (Vermeer) is recalling certain 2020 BC1500 and BC1200XL wood chippers. The wheel lug nuts may loosen and fall off, allowing the wheel to detach.

Consequence:

A wheel detachment while the vehicle is in motion may increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Vermeer will notify owners, and dealers will replace 16" wheels with 17.5" wheel/tire assemblies as well as replacing corresponding maintenance sign, specification placard, and supplemental operator's information, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin July 30, 2020. Owners may contact Vermeer customer service t 1-800-829-0051, extension 7060. Vermeer's number for this recall is IK.

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.

Please ensure the following requirements are met:

The total number of products potentially containing the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(3)).

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

The percentage of products estimated to contain the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(4)). If less than 1%, amend your filing to state 1% and provide the actual calculated amount in the first product text box.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

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 (such as the numbers of deaths and/or injuries), with their dates of receipt.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Your company's program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of your company's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with § 573.13. Your company's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by § 573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in your company's report to NHTSA. If your company submits one or more general reimbursement plans, your company shall update each plan every two years (§ 573.13). If the vehicles are new and would be covered under the manufacturer's warranty program, please state that in the remedy section of your filing.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Please identify how the products recalled under this campaign differ from the ones recalled under 20V-085. Specifically, why only 2 models are being recalled here, and the earlier campaign was for 5 models. Also, please clarify why there is a partial overlap in the production dates of the products that are being recalled in both campaigns.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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).

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. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Neff".

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