

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

March 30, 2021

Mr. Shannon Engel Quality Engineer Curt Manufacturing LLC 6208 Industrial Drive Eau Claire, WI 54701

21E-020

NEF-107KL

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Incorrect Jaw Latch Position May Allow Separation

Dear Mr. Engel:

This letter serves to acknowledge Curt Manufacturing 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:

**CURT/BALL & PINTLE HITCH/9999** 

Mfr's Report Date: March 23, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21E-020

**Components:** STRUCTURE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 13,474

# **Problem Description:**

Curt Manufacturing LLC (Curt Manufacturing) is recalling certain Forged Ball and Pintle Hitch part numbers 48190 and 48200. The pivot hole is out of position, which can limit the locking jaw engagement.

# **Consequence:**

The limited locking engagement may allow the upper jaw to unlatch and a towed vehicle to separate, increasing the risk of a crash.

## Remedy

Curt Manufacturing will notify owners, and dealers will replace the ball and pintle hitch, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin April 5, 2021. Owners may contact Curt Manufacturing customer service at 1-800-798-0813.

## **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 be reminded of the following requirements:



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.

Curt Manufacturing LLC's contact for this recall will be Kristin Lepper who may be reached by email at kristin.lepper@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

