



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 10, 2021

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

NEF-107MR  
21V-916

**Subject:** Incorrect Lug Nut Tightening Information in Manual

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:**

MCLAUGHLIN/VACUUM EXCAVATOR/2018-2022  
VERMEER/VACUUM EXCAVATOR/2018-2022

**Mfr's Report Date:** November 22, 2021

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 21V-916

**Components:**

EQUIPMENT:OTHER:OWNERS/SERVICE/OTHER MANUAL

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,054

**Problem Description:**

Vermeer Manufacturing Company (Vermeer) is recalling certain 2018-2021 Vermeer VX30, McLaughlin VX30, 2018-2022 McLaughlin VX50, Vermeer VX50, and 2018-2019 McLaughlin VX30G vacuum excavators with an 800-gallon tank configuration. The operator and maintenance manuals state an incorrect lug nut tightness value that could result in improperly tightened lug nuts.

**Consequence:**

Improperly tightened lug nuts may come loose, causing the wheel to fall off and increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Dealers will provide replacement operator and maintenance manuals, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed January 20, 2022. Owners may contact Vermeer customer service at 1-800-829-0051 ext. 7060. Vermeer's number for this recall is VMV0015.

**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.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).



**Please ensure the following requirements are met:**

Per the requirements of 49 USC 30119, please provide the part number, name and description of the component or components involved in this recall. This information should be provided in an amended 573 in the "Involved Components" section.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

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).

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 eight 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.

Vermeer Manufacturing Company's contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by email at [michelle.rice@dot.gov](mailto:michelle.rice@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement