



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 17, 2022

Ms. Morgan Fox
Parts and warranty manager
Sutphen Corporation
49 N. Ludlow Rd.
Urbana, OH 43078

NEF-107MR
22V-129

Subject: Rear Axle Drive Pinion May Fracture

Dear Ms. Fox:

This letter serves to acknowledge Sutphen Corporation'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:
SUTPHEN/FIRE TRUCK/2021

Mfr's Report Date: March 5, 2022

NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-129

Components:
POWER TRAIN:AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 53

Problem Description:

Sutphen Corporation (Sutphen) is recalling certain 2021 Fire Trucks equipped with Meritor 180 series drive pinions. The rear axle drive pinion may fracture.

Consequence:

A fractured drive pinion may contact the brake drop hose, and unintentionally engage the parking brake without detection or without the brake lights activating, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Meritor will inspect and replace the drive pinion, as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed on April 8, 2022. Owners may contact Sutphen's customer service at 1-614-889-1005.

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.

Please ensure the following requirements are met:

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.

Based on the provided remedy plan, it appears that your company may not be able to provide the required recall completion rate quarterly reports. If another company intends to file the report with detailed information about your company's remedy counts, please state so in the remedy section of the 573.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

As required in Part 573.6, please amend the chronology to provide the date that Sutphen was notified by Meritor, and when Sutphen decided to perform a recall.

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.

Sutphen Corporation's contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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