



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 23, 2022

Mr. Barry Mitchell
Director, Customer Service/Warranty
Great Dane Trailers
602 E. Lathrop Avenue
Savannah, GA 31402

NEF-107MR
22V-159

Subject: Radius Rod Mounting Bolts Not Properly Tightened

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

This letter serves to acknowledge Great Dane Trailers'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:

GREAT DANE/CHAMPION/2022
GREAT DANE/EVEREST/2022

Mfr's Report Date: March 15, 2022

NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-159

Components:

SUSPENSION:CRITICAL FASTENERS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,261

Problem Description:

Great Dane Trailers (Great Dane) is recalling certain 2022 Champion Dry Van and Everest Refrigerated trailers. The suspension radius rod mounting bolts were not properly tightened, which could allow the bolts to come loose and fall out.

Consequence:

Loose or missing bolts can cause the suspension to shift rearward, resulting in a loss of vehicle control. In addition, bolts that fall off can become a road hazard. Both of these scenarios can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Dealers will inspect and tighten the radius rod fasteners, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed on May 13, 2022. Owners may contact Great Dane's customer service at 1-877-369-3493.

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:

Per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier name, contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the suspension. If your company manufactured the component itself, then please state so in 573.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

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.

As required in Part 573.6, please amend the chronology to provide 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. If claim count exceeds 10 claims, please provide the total number of claims, and a receipt date range for those claims.

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 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.

Great Dane Trailers'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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Ansley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a checkmark-like flourish at the end.

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