



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 24, 2022

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

NEF-107MR
22V-328

Subject: Missing Rear Impact Plate/FMVSS 223 & 224

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/FREEDOM/2019

Mfr's Report Date: May 12, 2022

NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-328

Components:
EQUIPMENT:OTHER:LABELS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 72

Problem Description:

Great Dane Trailers (Great Dane) is recalling certain 2019 Freedom Platform trailers. The platform trailers may have been produced without a rear impact guard (RIG) certification plate. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard numbers 223, "Rear Impact Guards", and 224, "Rear Impact Protection."

Consequence:

Rear impact guards with missing plates may not be identified in the event of a safety recall, potentially resulting in an un-remedied safety issue and an increased risk of a crash or injury.

Remedy:

Dealers will provide new RIG certification plates stamped with the trailer date of manufacture, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed on June 8, 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:

An identification and description of the risk to motor vehicle safety reasonably related to the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(5)). All filings should state an increased risk of either a crash, injury or fire.

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.

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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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,



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