



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 24, 2022

Mr. Dave Neu
General Manager
Joe's Trailer Mfg.
13374 Farmington Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

NEF-107MR
22V-366

Subject: Coupler Improperly Welded

Dear Mr. Neu:

This letter serves to acknowledge Joe's Trailer Mfg.'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 LAKES/TANDEM 16'/2021-2022
GREAT LAKES/TANDEM 18'/2021-2022
GREAT LAKES/TANDEM 20'/2021-2022

Mfr's Report Date: May 20, 2022

NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-366

Components:

EQUIPMENT:RECREATIONAL VEHICLE/TRAILER
TRAILER HITCHES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 20

Problem Description:

Joe's Trailer Mfg. (Joe's) is recalling certain 2021-2022 Great Lakes Tandem 16', 18' and 20' trailers. The coupler was improperly welded, which may cause the trailer to separate from the tow vehicle.

Consequence:

Trailer separation from a tow vehicle can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Joe's will inspect and replace the coupler as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed in May, 2022. Owners may contact Joe's customer service at 1-800-261-0050.

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.

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. Please provide the date in which Joe's decided to file a recall with NHTSA.

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.

Joe's Trailer Mfg.'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