

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23E-033

Manufacturer Name : 3M Transportation Safety Division

Submission Date : APR 20, 2023

NHTSA Recall No. : 23E-033

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : 3M Transportation Safety Division

Number of potentially involved : 244

Address : 3M Center

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

0235-03-A-09 Maplewood MN 55144

Company phone : 461-2637

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : 3M™

Model : Flexible Prismatic Conspicuity Tape Series 913-72 retroreflective sheeting

Part No. : 913-72 (Red) DG23732

Size : 244 Rolls

Function : NR

Descriptive Information : The red product from Lot # DG23732 was determined to have not met compliance through third party testing. Only this lot was affected, all other lots of this product have passed compliance.

244 Rolls of sheeting of this product was identified under this lot number.

Production Dates : DEC 01, 2022 - DEC 31, 2022

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : The retroreflective sheeting in question may not comply with one of the performance requirements specified in S8.2.1 of FMVSS No. 108 and Table XVI-c of that standard. When samples were tested with an entrance angle of 30 degrees and an observation angle of 0.2 degrees, the sheeting reflected less than the 60 candela/lux/square meter required by the standard.

Only this entrance angle and observation angle did not comply to FMVSS 108.

FMVSS 1 : 108 - Lamps, reflective devices, and assoc. Equipment

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Retroreflective sheeting is used on the side of trucks and trailers to easily identify them at night, the risk in this case is quite minimal as only one specific entrance/observation angle did not comply with the required 60 candela/lux/square meter.

Additionally, only the red tape from this lot did not meet compliance, trucks will have a combination of red and white tape, the white tape has met all required standards and regulations.

Where only red conspicuity tape is used there is a potential for that red to be less reflective at an entrance angle of 30 degrees and an observation angle of 0.2. may not reflect at the levels required in FMVSS 108 and could reduce vehicle visibility.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning
that can Occur : NR

Involved Components :

Component Name : 913-72 Red Conspicuity Tape

Component Description : Red Retroreflective Tape

Component Part Number : DG23732

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : 3M Company

Address : 3M Center

223-3S-33 St. Paul Minnesota 55144

Country : United States

Chronology :

As part of its normal quality control procedures, 3M tested a sample of sheeting from the lot in question during December 2022. The third-party lab contacted 3M by email and informed 3M that this sheeting did not pass the retroreflection requirement. Because of the lower brightness measurement on the sheeting at the 0.2/30 degree angle, 3M believes the lot of sheeting identified above may not comply with S8.2.1 of FMVSS No. 108. 3M has not received any complaints regarding this issue from the field.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : 3M has notified all distributors that received any of the sheeting covered by this report to advise them to not sell any of that sheeting still in their possession and to return any remaining sheeting to 3M for replacement. 3M is covering the costs associated with returning the items.

3M has no known end-users of the noncompliant sheeting. The normal warranty has a provision for replacement of the sheeting. In this case, the material has been discontinued and refund for defective material offered.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Different line of our conspicuity tape that is also used for trucks and trailers and satisfies the red and white conspicuity needs.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Not applicable as the product has been discontinued.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notifications to customers were issued around February 28th, 2023, of the non-compliance and given guidance on how to return/replace products.

NHTSA was mailed a letter around the same time.

Submitting through this portal at this date.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

* NR - Not Reported