

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-767

Manufacturer Name : Pratt Intermodal Chassis**Submission Date :** NOV 13, 2023**NHTSA Recall No. :** 23V-767**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 2023-00001**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Pratt Intermodal Chassis

Address : 2070 S 3rd Street

Niles MI 49120

Company phone : 2620933

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 320

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2022-2023 Pratt Intermodal Chassis GN30402-EC-6P

Vehicle Type : TRAILERS

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The units were selected by the production dates from when Pratt Intermodal Chassis started production and then until production of this model was stopped. The design of this particular model only created a condition where the potential for a structural failure exists between the front gooseneck section and the mid-rail under certain load conditions and when the chassis is in the 20-foot configuration. This can result in bending or cracking of the mid beam of the chassis when a fully loaded or overloaded 20-foot container is mounted to the trailer. The issue is not present when the chassis is used in the 40-foot configuration because the load is spread across the entire chassis and does not result in the potential bending condition. There are 320 Units involved of model GN30402-EC-6P

Production Dates : DEC 06, 2021 - JUN 30, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1P9CC4024MN343440 End : 1P9CC4028PN343445 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The design of this model created a condition where the potential for a structural failure exists between the front gooseneck section and the mid-rail under certain load conditions and when the chassis is in the 20-foot configuration.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The defect can result in bending or cracking of the mid beam of the chassis when a fully loaded or overloaded 20-foot container is mounted to the trailer. Bending of the chassis makes it difficult to remove the container, and it is a precursor to future cracking if not remedied. If cracking occurs during

operation, the retracted landing gears will contact the road and the gooseneck portion of the trailer will be at a severe upward angle. Continued travel under this condition could result in complete failure of the trailer, and if the twist locks connecting the trailer to the container fail or are not engaged the load could be separated from the tractor and/or the trailer.

Description of the Cause : The result can be in the bending or cracking of the mid beam of the chassis when a fully loaded or overloaded 20-foot container is mounted to the trailer. The issue is not present when the chassis is used in the 40-foot configuration because the load is spread across the entire chassis and does not result in the potential bending condition.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :

- a) – The bending of the frame is visibly evident prior to any other failure as shown in the attached document
- b) – As with the bending of the frame, the crack that can result is also very evident.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Pratt Intermodal Chassis

Address : 2070 S 3rd Street
Niles Michigan 49120

Country : United States

Chronology :

- The trailers in question were manufactured between December 2021, through June 2022.
- o Production of this model was halted in June 2022 when a single unit was observed to be bent. The unit was carrying an overweight 20 ft container at the time.
- Pratt Intermodal Chassis was notified by National Chassis, Inc. in September 2022 that one of their units also suffered a bent midbeam after being used to transport an overweight 20 ft container. No action was taken at this time due to the failure occurring while the chassis was being operated outside its approved

operating limits.

- Pratt Intermodal Chassis was notified by DCLI (Direct Chassis Link Inc) in early October 2023 that similar units of the same design but produced by prior ownership had similar failures while carrying 20 ft containers that were within weight limits at the time of failure.
 - o These two chassis were requested to be shipped to PIC for internal investigation as to cause.
 - o This investigation led Pratt Intermodal Chassis to reassess the sufficiency of the design of this model to carry containers at the approved ratings.
- On November 3, 2023, a decision was made to begin the recall process of GN30402-EC-6P chassis produced by Pratt Intermodal Chassis.
 - o To date no other reports of bent or cracked trailers manufactured by Pratt Intermodal Chassis have occurred.

Description of Remedy :

- Description of Remedy Program :** We have prepared an outline of the procedure to remedy the defect. Below is an outline of that remedy. There is included in the document a complete VIN Listing and diagrams. Step 3 below includes welding the trailer in the 40 ft position and allowing use in that configuration only.
1. All PIC GN304302-EC-6P chassis with the following VIN's are required to have an inspection for failure as shown following. See below steps and diagrams for specifics of the inspection and repair procedure.
 2. If cracks exist in the area shown in diagram 2 then the unit may NOT be used and must NOT remain on the road. Please contact PIC via email at warranty@prattchassis.com for disposition.
 3. If no deformation exists in the area of concern shown in diagrams 1 and 2, you may continue to use the chassis in the 40 ft position only, with the modifications shown in diagrams 3, 4, and 5.
 4. Contact PIC at warranty@prattchassis.com with any questions about performing this inspection and repair procedure.
- How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** The notification document outlines the procedure to allow the units that are found to be bent (but not cracked) to be modified and used as a 40 ft container trailer only. If cracking of the mid-beam has occurred, the unit is not to be used.
- Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** The product was discontinued. The remedy for units in the field is to adapt the trailer to transport a 40 Ft container only. The loading for a 40 Ft container re-distributes the load to the front and rear of the trailer in lieu of the center. The center mounts for the 20 ft container are to be eliminated to no longer allow the transport of a 20 Ft container. The existing design has not been manufactured since the end of June 2022

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : A draft of the recall safety bulletin has been prepared and is ready for distribution to the customers upon approval by NHTSA
The Safety Bulletin with full outline and instructions will be distributed to dealers and owners of the trailers immediately upon approval by NHTSA.

We will be employing a third party to locate the trailers in question.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 20, 2023 - DEC 08, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 20, 2023 - DEC 08, 2023

* NR - Not Reported