



Truxxx Manufacturing LLC
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08E-026
(3 pages)

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE.,
Washington, DC 20590

RECEIVED
2008 MARCH 27
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

RE: Initial Safety Defect Report (49 CFR Part 573)
Manufacturer: Truxxx Manufacturing LLC
Aftermarket replacement welded 3" lift blocks for rear suspension: Part # 206073 for
Ford 2005-2008 F-250 Superduty 4x4 light trucks, included with TruxxxTM suspension
kits # 108035, 108036
Initiating Party: Truxxx Manufacturing LLC

Dear People:

Truxxx Manufacturing LLC ("TruxxxTM") has determined that a safety defect exists in certain aftermarket replacement welded 3" lift blocks secured by U-bolts to the rear leaf springs of Ford F-250 2005-2008 Superduty 4x4 light trucks, as part of TruxxxTM suspension kits # 108035, #108036. *This defect report does not affect Ford F250 trucks not equipped with Truxxx's aftermarket suspension kit.* Truxxx is furnishing this notification in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573:

(1) The affected replacement welded 3" lift blocks were manufactured by Truxxx Manufacturing LLC, 810 E. 19th St., Tucson, Arizona 85719. and included in Truxxx's aftermarket suspension kits # 108035, #108036, for Ford 2005-2008 Superduty light trucks.

The agency should contact the following person with respect to this recall: Eric Hasenberg, General Manager, Truxxx Manufacturing LLC, 810 E. 19th St., Tucson, Arizona 85719. (eric@truxxx.com); phone (480) 882-0717 ext. 415; Fax (520) 623-1663.

(2) The vehicles involved in this recall are Ford 2005-2008 Superduty 4x4 light trucks, equipped with TruxxxTM suspension kits # 108035, #108036, sold between approximately 7/26/07 and 3/4/08. Affected parts can be identified by their part number (206073), welded steel construction, 3" height and distinctive shape.

(3) TruxxxTM reports 338 (two blocks per kit) as the approximate number of welded 3" lift blocks sold in connection with TruxxxTM suspension kits # 108035. TruxxxTM reports 20 (two blocks per kit) as the approximate number of welded 3" lift blocks sold in connection with TruxxxTM suspension kits # 108036.

(4) As set forth below, root causes of suspected defect include inadequate compressive strength of welded lift blocks for foreseeable and excess payloads as well as over torque of u-bolts during installation of Truxxx™ suspension kits # 108035, #108036. Truxxx™ estimates that 100% of the affected welded 3" lift blocks may contain the defect.

(5) On Ford F-250 2005-2008 Superduty 4x4 light trucks, equipped with Truxxx™ suspension kits # 108035 or #108036 the welded 3" lift blocks are u-bolted to the rear leaf springs. Compressive forces resulting from foreseeable and excess vehicle payloads as well as over torque of u-bolts during installation may distort the blocks, reducing the intended clamping force of the u-bolts and allowing possible shifting and damage to the rear drive shaft and axle.

(6) The suspension kits utilizing the 3" welded steel lift block (part #206073) were first sold in August 2007. On or about 12/7/07 Truxxx™ learned of an incident involving distortion of the rear lift blocks but was unable to determine the root cause. Between approximately 2/27/08 and 3/07/08 Truxxx™ learned of three additional incidents involving distortion of the 3" welded steel lift blocks subject to this voluntary recall. Two (2) of those instances are believed to have resulted in damage to rear drive shafts and suspension. Truxxx™ quarantined existing supplies of part #206073 and was able to examine a returned block involved in one of the incidents. The decision to voluntarily recall all suspect welded blocks followed.

(7) (re non-compliance with FMVSS standards not applicable).

(8)(i) Truxxx™ will notify customers/installers and ask them to inspect and identify the limited number of vehicles equipped with Truxxx™ suspension kits # 108035, #108036 using the welded 3" lift blocks. Truxxx™ will replace affected welded lift blocks with either non-welded aluminum or cast iron blocks at no charge to customers. A labor credit will be supplied if requested although many customers routinely work on their aftermarket equipped trucks and are expected to perform their block replacement themselves.

Truxxx™ will comply with 49 CFR 573.13 by way of a specific reimbursement plan for pre-notification remedy to be included as part of its proposed notice to customers affected by this voluntary recall. Pursuant to 573.13 c (1) et seq. this plan will include a beginning date of March 1, 2007 and an ending date thirty days after Truxxx™ initial efforts to provide notice to customers pursuant to section 577.7. Within sixty days of receipt of a claim for reimbursement, Truxxx™ will reimburse customers by check for the retail list price of a comparable block supplied by Truxxx™ or other manufacturer plus labor (at local rates) and any related taxes or fees. Truxxx™ may require a receipt for the repair cost, a description of the part replaced and documentation that the claimant or a relative (with relationship stated) owned the vehicle at the time of replacement. Reimbursement claims should be mailed to Eric Hasenberg, General Manager, Truxxx Manufacturing LLC, 810 E. 19th St., Tucson, Arizona 85719. Truxxx™ will make copies of this reimbursement plan available to the public upon request.

(ii) Truxxx™ estimates that it will begin sending notification to customers affected by this voluntary recall within two weeks.

(9) This notification does not involve replacement tires.

(10) Copies of subsequent correspondence will be submitted to NHTSA within five 5 working days of distribution. This may include:

- I) Letter of distributor notification
- II) Letter of end customer notification
- III) Copy of web site posting and any press release to enthusiasts' magazines. Truxxx™ will monitor customer response to this campaign but does not foresee any problems in implementing this voluntary recall campaign.

(11) This report was prepared on March 21, 2008. Truxxx has assigned 08-01blk. as its identification code for this voluntary recall.

Truxxx™ welcomes NHTSA's comments and suggestions for this voluntary recall campaign. Please contact me should further information be required.

Sincerely,

Eric Hasenberg (eric@truxx.com)
General Manager
Phone (480) 882-0717 ext.

Courtesy Copy: Ms. Kelly Schuler (Kelly.schuler@dot.gov)