

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 24V-642

**Manufacturer Name :** Kentucky Trailer Manufacturing**Submission Date :** AUG 27, 2024**NHTSA Recall No. :** 24V-642**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Kentucky Trailer Manufacturing

Number of potentially involved : 1,439

Address : 7201 LOGISTICS DRIVE

Estimated percentage with defect : 73 %

LOUISVILLE KY 40258

Company phone : 502-637-2551

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2022-2024 Kentucky Trailer (KTB) MV, PV

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM &amp; HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

**Descriptive Information :** Kentucky Trailer has identified a defect in the floor securement structure of the attic section of certain MV and PV model truck bodies manufactured between March 16, 2022 and August 22, 2024. To date, there have been no accidents or injuries reported relating to this issue. The defect relates to a change in material and installation process of the attic floor. The prior material used for the attic floor was a panel made from a fiberglass reinforced plywood core, and this was installed using screws around the perimeter and to the crossmembers underneath the attic floor area. The attic floor material was changed to a composite fiberglass panel with a honeycomb core, and this was installed with screws along the front and adhesives along the sides, rear, and to the crossmembers underneath the attic floor area. Without the use of fasteners, the adhesive joints can fail, which allows motion in the attic area and degradation of the end clips of the crossmembers under the floor area. After enough degradation of the end clips of the crossmembers, the crossmembers can come loose. Our production bill of material and completion data has isolated the defect to the reported range of model years and chassis IDs. Based on this data the recall population includes all of the approximately 1439 truck body units manufactured by Kentucky Trailer with composite floors in the attic structure. A material substitution for the composite floor was made due to supply chain constraints in 2023 that resulted in approximately 384 units that will not be affected by the potential defect. Kentucky Trailer's BOM data does not indicate the units without composite floors, so they will need to be identified by inspection and will therefore be notified of the potential condition.

Production Dates : MAR 16, 2022 - AUG 22, 2024

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The defect relates to a change in material and installation process of the attic floor. The prior material used for the attic floor was a panel made from a fiberglass reinforced plywood core, and this was installed using screws around the perimeter and to the crossmembers underneath the attic floor area. The attic floor material was changed to a composite fiberglass panel with a honeycomb core, and this was installed with screws along the front and adhesives along the sides, rear, and to the crossmembers underneath the attic floor area. Without the use of fasteners, the adhesive joints can start to fail, which allows motion in the attic area and degradation of the end clips of the crossmembers under the floor area. After enough degradation of the end clips of the crossmembers, the crossmembers can come loose.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Though there have been no reported instances, the safety risk is the potential for the attic crossmembers to fall off of a truck body unit and cause damage or injury to the truck body unit itself and/or surrounding persons/vehicles/property.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Warnings include loose attic floor, or loose or damaged crossmember end clips under the attic floor.

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Truck body composite attic floor

Component Description : This component is mounted to the structure of the upper cargo area and becomes the load floor for the upper cargo area of the truckbody.

Component Part Number : N/A

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

## Chronology :

The first customer report of a truck body with broken attic crossmembers was made in April of 2023. This was a single truck body unit, built in April of 2022, which showed damage that appeared to be caused by a tree limb impact. Kentucky Trailer supplied the customer new crossmembers to replace the damaged ones.

The second report of attic crossmember damage was made in July of 2024. The customer reported that their truck body had attic crossmember end clips that were damaged and there was excessive movement of the attic relative to the truck cab. This unit was built in September of 2022. The customer, working with their outside repair facility, requested to cover entire attic floor with aluminum plate as the repair, and Kentucky Trailer agreed to this repair. Soon after this the customer reported a second truck, which was built in March of 2023, which had similar problems, The customer requested the same repair for this unit and Kentucky Trailer agreed to this repair.

The third customer report was made in July of 2024. The customer reported that the attic crossmembers had damaged end clips and the attic had lots of movement relative to the truck cab. This unit was built in November of 2022. Kentucky Trailer requested that the customer return the unit to the Kentucky Trailer repair facility for a full evaluation of the truck body. After evaluating the truck body it appeared that that issue may be related to the attic floor material change and installation process change. After this unit was repaired and sent back to the customer they have reported two other units that are experiencing the same issue. These were built in November of 2022 and March of 2023.

Four additional customer reports have been received since this one unit was brought in to the Kentucky Trailer repair facility. Once we were able to investigate these other units, we found that they also have manufacture dates that correspond with the timing of the composite attic floor material change

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** Kentucky Trailer intends to remedy the subject defect by providing a kit of fasteners, instructions and tools to secure the composite floor to the surrounding structure and crossmembers mechanically, replacing reliance on the adhesive bond to restrain the floor. The fasteners include screws, washers, plates, and ferrules to limit compression of the composite material. In some cases the movement of the floor system may have caused cracking at the crossmember/rail mounting brackets. For vehicles so affected an additional kit will be provided with new brackets, bolts and rivets to replace the damaged crossmember attachments. Kentucky Trailer intends to perform this service work at any of its service facilities at no charge to customers. Kentucky Trailer also intends to make available for shipment to customers (or their designees), packages containing the required screws, washers and plates, and ferrules along with replacement instructions (including detailed diagrams and specifications) and to reimburse customers for the reasonable cost of the completed service work.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** The kit of mechanical fasteners is easily identifiable on the composite floor assembly providing unambiguous evidence that the update has been completed.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** The recall condition was corrected in production for all units manufactured on and after August 22, 2024 by mounting the composite floor to the truck body utilizing mechanical fasteners. After approximately November 1, 2024 the attic floor material will be changed to FRP (fiberglass reinforced plywood) and retained with standard screws. FRP was the original design and can be attached without the specialized washers, plates and ferrules that the composite material requires.

**Recall Schedule :**

**Description of Recall Schedule :** To be submitted upon determination and confirmation.  
**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** SEP 11, 2024 - SEP 26, 2024  
**Planned Owner Notification Date :** OCT 11, 2024 - OCT 26, 2024

\* NR - Not Reported