



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

## Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 25V385

**Manufacturer Name:** Vanguard National Trailer Corporation

**Submission Date:** Jun 11, 2025

**NHTSA Recall No.:** 25V385

**Manufacturer Recall No.:**

### Manufacturer Information

### Population

**Manufacturer Name:** Vanguard National Trailer Corporation

**Address:** 289 E. Water Tower Drive  
Monon IN, 47959

**Total number of potentially involved:** 2,192

**Estimated percentage with defect:** 100%

### Vehicle Information

**Vehicle 1:** 2014-2023 VANGUARD VXP

**Product Category:** Trailers

**Product Type:**

**Fuel / Propulsion:**

**Production Dates:** Jan 01, 2020 - Dec 31, 2022

**Number of potentially involved:** 2,192

#### Descriptive Information:

Vanguard was contacted by Estes Express Lines regarding cracks found in the Pintle Hook Box structure on units purchased from YRC, Inc.(Yellow Freight) at auction.

YRC had filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy and were liquidating their equipment purchased from Vanguard National Trailer.

Upon review of the issue our Engineering determined that stress concentrations were present in this specific Pintle Box Assembly.

The assembly in question is Vanguard p/n 1UCA00164 and is exclusive to the units produced for YRC, Inc.

This assembly p/n was not used for any other Pintle Hook Trailers we built other than those produced for YRC, Inc. in Model Years 2021, 2022 & 2023.

We are soliciting notification to YRC, Inc. (Yellow Freight) being the original purchasers of the 2,192 units in question as well as Estes Express Lines as part of this recall.

We have accounted for 2,060 units of this population currently in Estes' procession and contacting YRC, Inc. for the remaining 132 units.

We are unsure if YRC, Inc. still has these in their possession or if they were also sold @ auction.

We are not able to reach their offices for a response and why they are being advised in a separate notification letter in addition to Estes Express Lines.

### Defect / Noncompliance Description

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## Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Trailers equipped with these specific Pintle Box assemblies may experience cracking in the Pintle Box attachment points to the frame of the trailer.

**FMVSS1:**

**FMVSS2:**

## Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

This cracking, if severe, can cause the Pintle Box assembly to become unsupported or become dislodged causing loss of control of the vehicle increasing the risk of a crash.

## Description of the cause:

Stress analysis was used to review the stresses involved when the Pintle Box Assembly is in use. Analysis showed that stress concentrations existed in the areas where the cracking was observed/reported and was caused from the forces experienced in a doubles or triples trailer train scenario.

## Identification of any warning that can occur:

Visual inspection of Pintle Box Assembly for cracks in the mounting structure as shown in the provided inspection/repair procedure.

## Component Manufacturer

**Tier of Supplier:**

**Supplier Type:**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Country:**

## Involved Components

**Component Name 1:** Pintle Box Assembly

**Component Description:** Mounting Structure for Pintle Hook on 28 Foot Pup Trailer

**Component Part Number:** 1UCA00164

## Chronology

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Vanguard was contacted by Estes Express Lines regarding cracks observed in the Pintle Box Assembly on 28-Foot Pup Trailer they purchased from YRC, INC. (Yellow Freight) at auction.

YRC, Inc. had filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy and was liquidating their assets via auction. Estes Express Lines purchased 2,060 of these trailers.

Upon review of the concern our Engineering group conducted stress analysis of the Pintle Box Assy' to determine root cause.

It was learned in this analysis that the mounting structure's connection points to the Trailer Frame were areas of higher stress concentrations then anticipated resulting in the cracking.

Further analysis was done to determine a means by which to eliminate the stress concentrations in these areas of concern.

Support Brackets were designed for installation to provide additional support to the Pintle Box Assy'.

When installed, these brackets eliminate the stress concentrations in the area of concern and return to the unit for safe use as intended.

**Related NHTSA Recall Number:**

## Description of Remedy

**Remedy Type:** Inspect, Repair, Reimburse

**Consumer Advisories:** ☐ Do Not Drive ☐ Park Outside

**Description of remedy program:**

Inspection of the Pintle Box Assembly is required to determine if any cracking exists in the mounting structure. If cracks are present, the required remedy is outlined in the attached repair procedure to weld the cracks. In addition to the inspection/welding, Support Brackets will be added to the Pintle Box & Rear Bumper to eliminate the stress concentrations within the mounting structure.

**How remedy component differs from recalled component:**

The Support Brackets used for repair are in addition to the original Pintle Box Assy' design.

**Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:**

This specific design of the Pintle Box Assy' is no longer in use.

## Reimbursement Plan

**Description of reimbursement program:**

Vanguard will reimburse the vehicle owner @ \$90/hr. for 2.0hrs for the repair/remedy. Vanguard will also supply all the parts kits needed for the repair as outlined in the remedy/repair procedure when contacted by the vehicle owner. An invoice noting the full VIN#(s) is to be submitted to Vanguard by the vehicle owner noting the charges for the repair(s). the invoice should also include the

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owners account information and where payment should be sent. Payment will be in the form a mailed Check for each invoice presented. NO reimbursements will be made without a detailed invoice being provided. Vanguard Warranty department should be contacted with any questions/concerns regarding the processing of payments.

**Period of reimbursement:**

Until repairs are completed

**Costs to be reimbursed:**

Vanguard will reimburse the vehicle owner @ \$90/hr. for 2.0hrs for the repair/remedy.  
Vanguard will also supply all the parts kits needed for the repair as outlined in the remedy/repair procedure when contacted by the vehicle owner.

**Address for reimbursement claims:**

289 East Water Tower Dr.

Attn : Warranty

Monon IN, 47959

### Recall Schedule

**Description of recall schedule:**

Vanguard will send 2 notification letters in total upon approval.

One Letter to YRC, Inc. (Yellow Freight) and one letter to Estes Express Lines outlining the details of the recall and remedy.

Specific VIN populations will be noted for each based on what equipment ownership has already been determined.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date:**

☒ No Dealers

**Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:**

☐ No Owners

**Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:**

☐ Phased Recall

**Date when VIN will be searchable:**