

OWNER LETTER

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

Expansion of Previous Recall of Certain Reese (P/N 54970) and Pro Series (P/N 63970) Weight Distribution Shanks

Recall No. 11E027

December 2011

Dear Valued Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Cequent Performance Products, Inc. ("Cequent") has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain production lots of Reese and Pro Series brand weight distribution shanks. Our records indicate that you may have purchased a weight distribution kit potentially containing one of the recalled shanks.* If you purchased one of these kits prior to August 1, 2010, you are not affected by this recall. However, if you purchased your kit on or after August 1, 2010, please review this notice carefully.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You may have received a prior notice concerning this recall. Cequent has decided to expand this recall to include additional serial numbers. Accordingly, please review the information below to determine whether your product is covered.

What Products are Involved?

This recall involves Reese Part No. 54970 and Pro Series Part No. 63970 weight distribution shanks marked with serial numbers **TD100391 through TD100523**. These parts were sold both individually and as a component in certain Reese and Pro Series weight distributing kits.

What is the Problem?

As a result of a production error, some weight distribution shanks were not manufactured to the correct specifications. As a consequence, the shank may fracture when subjected to load during installation or use, potentially causing a crash.

What You Should Do?

Please follow these instructions to determine if you own one of the recalled shanks.

1. Locate the serial number on the shank, as shown in Figures 1 and 2:

* Federal regulations require any lessor receiving this letter to forward it to the lessee within 10 days.



Figure 1



Figure 2

If the serial number falls within the range **TD100391 through TD100523**, or if the serial number cannot be read, please contact Cequent Customer Service at 1-877-208-2573 to coordinate pickup and replacement of the shank. **DO NOT CONTINUE TO USE THE SHANK.** A replacement shank will be provided free of charge.

If you have any questions about this recall, please call Cequent Customer Service at 1-877-208-2573. For the most up-to-date information concerning this recall, please visit <http://www.cequentgroup.com/wdshank.pdf>. If you are unable to obtain a remedy without charge within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to: Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20590; or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4326 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

* * *

We appreciate your cooperation and prompt attention to this important matter, and apologize for any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

Cequent Performance Products, Inc.

DEALER, DISTRIBUTOR & INSTALLER DOCUMENT

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

Expansion of Previous Recall of Certain Reese (P/N 54970) and Pro Series (P/N 63970) Weight Distribution Shanks

NHTSA Recall No. 11E027

Dear Valued Customer:

We previously notified you that Cequent Performance Products, Inc. ("Cequent") is voluntarily recalling certain production lots of Reese and Pro Series brand weight distribution shanks. We are writing to advise you that Cequent has decided to expand the scope of this recall to cover additional serial numbers for the affected products. Our records indicate that some of the shanks within the expanded recall may have been shipped to you, and ask that you review this notice carefully.*

What Products are Involved?

This recall involves Reese Part No. 54970 and Pro Series Part No. 63970 weight distribution shanks marked with serial numbers **TD100391 through TD100523**. These parts were sold both individually and as a component in the kits listed in Addendum 1. The recalled parts were shipped by Cequent on or after August 1, 2010. Products shipped prior to August 1, 2010 are not involved.

What is the Problem?

As a result of a production error, some of the weight distribution shanks in the recall population may have a carbon content that is higher than specified. As a consequence, the shank may fracture when subjected to load during installation or use.

What You Should Do?

(a) Recalled product in inventory: You will receive replacement product free of charge on returning the recalled products to us at the following address. Please coordinate all returns through the Cequent customer service phone number below.

Cequent Performance Products, Inc.
47912 Halyard Drive Suite 100
Plymouth, MI 48170
1-877-208-2573

Under federal law, you may not sell the recalled products.

Please follow these instructions to locate any recalled products (individual shanks and/or kits) remaining in your inventory:

1. For 54970 and 63970 shanks, quarantine all shanks with serial numbers TD100391 through TD100523 (See Figures 2 & 3 to locate serial #.) Contact Cequent Customer Service to coordinate pickup and replacement of shanks that

* Federal regulations require any lessor receiving this letter to forward it to the lessee within 10 days.

match the serial numbers indicated above. If the shank serial number cannot be clearly read, quarantine the shank and immediately contact Cequent customer service to coordinate pickup and replacement of the shank.

2. For weight distributing kits containing recalled shanks, locate any of the part/kit numbers listed in Addendum 1 in your inventory.



Figure 1

a. If the label has a $\frac{3}{4}$ " round yellow sticker with an "X" through it or has a 1" round green sticker, the kit is okay and does not need to be checked. For kits without the $\frac{3}{4}$ " round yellow sticker with an "X" through it or has a 1" round green sticker, please proceed to step (b) below.

b. If the carton has a 3-digit serial number sticker on it as shown in Figure 1 (some Pro Series kits), then cross reference the date code and 3-digit serial number sticker against the Sorting List (Addendum 2). If you identify a match, remove the shank from the WD kit and quarantine the shank. Contact Cequent customer service to coordinate pickup and replacement of the shank. If the serial # does not match the sorting list, the WD kit can be placed back into your stock.

c. If the carton does not have a 3-digit serial number sticker on it, the carton must be opened to determine whether it contains a recalled part. Remove the shank from the carton and locate the serial number where indicated below:



Figure 2



Figure 3

Quarantine all shanks with serial numbers **TD100391 through TD100523**. Contact Cequent customer service to coordinate pickup and replacement of the shank. If the serial number cannot be read, quarantine the shank and immediately contact Cequent customer service to coordinate pickup and replacement of the shank.

d. Please clearly mark every inspected WD kit by writing "OK" plus the date that the kit was inspected below the product description on the white product label. The white space below "1200# Pro Series Round Bar WD Kit" in Figure 1 is where the label should be marked by your inspector. This mark will notify your customers who receive future shipments from you that the product has been inspected.

(b) Recalled product in the hands of your customers and owners: Please forward copies of this letter and attachments within five (5) business days to any reselling customers who may have purchased the recalled products from you on or after August 1, 2010. They will be provided free replacement products on the same basis as above.

We also request that you transmit copies of the attached consumer letter through your distribution system. It advises consumers/end users of steps to be taken by them to obtain a replacement free of charge. Specifically, consumers are advised to contact Cequent customer service directly for all suspect products. Cequent will honor any replacement and freight charges associated with the return. Alternatively, you may

provide contact information to Cequent, and Cequent will coordinate notification to these customers.

If you have any questions about this recall, please call Cequent Customer Service at **1-877-208-2573**

We appreciate your cooperation and prompt attention to this important matter, and apologize for any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

Paul C. Caruso
Vice President & General Manager, Towing Division

Attachment (Letter to Owners)

ADDENDUM 1

LIST OF AFFECTED WEIGHT DISTRIBUTING KITS

49568
49568-020
49569
49569-020
49570
49570-020
49585
49585-020
49586
49586-020
49587
49587-020
54980
61009
62542
62556
65509
66082
66083
66084
66086
66087
66088
66151
66153
66155
66157
66540
66541
66542
67509

ADDENDUM 2 *(Revised December 1, 2011)* Sorting List for the Serialized Cartons

46570	49568	49569	49570	49570 (cont'd)	49586	49586 (cont'd)	49587	49587 (cont'd)	49589
N110254-063	N10276-042	N110286-014	N110252-039		N110313-107		N110252-105		N110341-088
N110254-075	N10276-140	N110286-016	N110254-063	N110258-074	N110252-106	N110252-160	N110252-106	N110253-129	N110341-091
N110254-085	N10276-167	N110286-025	N110254-075	N110258-090	N110261-160	N110252-161	N110252-111	N110253-130	N110341-094
N110254-093	N10276-188	N110286-042	N110254-084	N110258-112	N110313-017	N110252-163	N110252-112	N110253-131	N110341-099
N110254-104	N110262-014	N110286-045	N110254-085	N110258-114	N110252-001	N110252-164	N110252-114	N110253-138	N110341-100
N110254-118	N110262-042	N110286-051	N110254-086	N110258-128	N110252-002	N110252-166	N110252-122	N110253-139	
N110254-135	N110262-057	N110286-055	N110254-088	N110258-151	N110252-005	N110252-167	N110252-123	N110253-140	
N110254-175	N110262-063	N110286-067	N110254-090	N110258-167	N110252-006	N110252-168	N110252-124	N110253-142	
N110254-211	N110262-067	N110286-075	N110254-091	N110258-176	N110252-007	N110252-170	N110252-125	N110253-143	
N110254-225	N110262-069	N110286-114	N110254-092	N110258-178	N110252-008	N110252-171	N110252-128	N110253-145	
N110254-239	N110262-070	N110286-117	N110254-093	N110258-182	N110252-009	N110252-172	N110252-129	N110253-146	
N110255-011	N110262-074	N110286-122	N110254-095	N110258-194	N110252-011	N110252-175	N110252-131	N110253-149	
N110255-040	N110262-076	N110286-127	N110254-097	N110259-001	N110252-013	N110252-176	N110252-132	N110253-152	
N110255-043	N110262-080	N110286-136	N110254-098	N110259-007	N110252-014	N110252-178	N110252-133	N110253-154	
N110255-047	N110262-088	N110286-171	N110254-099	N110259-061	N110252-015	N110252-179	N110252-134	N110253-155	
N110255-056	N110262-094	N110286-176	N110254-104	N110259-062	N110252-016	N110252-180	N110252-137	N110253-156	
N110255-060	N110262-105	N110286-187	N110254-118	N110259-063	N110252-017	N110252-181	N110252-138	N110253-158	
N110255-071	N110262-133	N110287-001	N110254-135	N110259-064	N110252-018	N110252-184	N110252-139	N110253-159	
N110255-077	N110262-135	N110287-027	N110254-153	N110259-068	N110252-019	N110252-188	N110252-140	N110253-162	
N110255-103	N110262-140	N110287-030	N110254-175	N110259-069	N110252-021	N110252-190	N110253-001	N110253-166	
N110255-109	N110262-153	N110287-063	N110254-211	N110259-073	N110252-023	N110252-191	N110253-003	N110253-167	
N110255-145	N110262-169	N110287-106	N110254-218	N110259-075	N110252-024	N110252-195	N110253-004	N110253-172	
N110255-171	N110269-015	N110316-037	N110254-239	N110259-092	N110252-025	N110252-197	N110253-005	N110253-173	
N110255-187	N110269-019	N110316-082	N110255-011	N110259-129	N110252-027	N110252-198	N110253-007	N110253-175	
N110256-011	N110269-023	N110316-106	N110255-040	N110259-180	N110252-028	N110252-199	N110253-008	N110253-176	
N110256-027	N110269-033	N110316-195	N110255-043	N110259-199	N110252-029	N110252-200	N110253-011	N110253-177	
N110256-034	N110269-048	N110340-023	N110255-047	N110260-004	N110252-030	N110261-017	N110253-013	N110253-178	
N110256-045	N110269-052	N110340-162	N110255-056	N110260-007	N110252-031	N110261-033	N110253-014	N110253-180	
N110256-072	N110269-077	N110341-091	N110255-060	N110260-009	N110252-034	N110261-042	N110253-018	N110253-185	
N110256-111	N110269-081	N110341-171	N110255-071	N110260-011	N110252-039	N110261-047	N110253-022	N110253-187	
N110257-032	N110269-089		N110255-077	N110260-012	N110252-040	N110261-061	N110253-024	N110253-194	
N110257-043	N110269-122		N110255-103	N110260-013	N110252-044	N110261-062	N110253-026	N110253-196	
N110257-069	N110269-127		N110255-109	N110260-014	N110252-045	N110261-064	N110253-027	N110253-197	
N110257-088	N110269-129		N110255-139	N110260-022	N110252-051	N110261-065	N110253-028	N110261-104	
N110257-093	N110269-130		N110255-145	N110260-030	N110252-052	N110261-066	N110253-029	N110261-106	
N110257-112	N110269-131		N110255-161	N110260-034	N110252-054	N110261-067	N110253-032	N110261-119	
N110257-114	N110269-132		N110255-171	N110260-072	N110252-055	N110261-072	N110253-034	N110261-121	
N110257-127	N110269-133		N110255-187	N110260-108	N110252-056	N110261-074	N110253-035	N110261-126	
N110257-130	N110269-138		N110255-193	N110260-114	N110252-057	N110261-077	N110253-036	N110261-134	
N110257-150	N110269-139		N110256-001	N110260-141	N110252-059	N110261-078	N110253-042	N110261-143	
N110257-175	N110269-144		N110256-005	N110260-151	N110252-060	N110261-086	N110253-045	N110261-144	
N110257-192	N110269-157		N110256-007	N110260-161	N110252-061	N110261-119	N110253-047	N110261-148	
N110258-051	N110269-158		N110256-009	N110260-162	N110252-064	N110271-177	N110253-052	N110261-150	
N110258-055	N110269-169		N110256-011	N110260-163	N110252-065	N110271-182	N110253-053	N110261-151	
N110258-074	N110269-170		N110256-012	N110260-164	N110252-067	N110271-197	N110253-054	N110261-154	
N110258-090	N110269-195		N110256-014	N110260-165	N110252-068	N110271-218	N110253-055	N110261-159	
N110258-112	N110270-005		N110256-018	N110260-170	N110252-069	N110271-225	N110253-056	N110261-160	
N110258-114	N110271-173		N110256-019	N110260-175	N110252-071	N110271-228	N110253-058	N110261-172	
N110258-128	N110276-039		N110256-027	N110260-177	N110252-075	N110271-229	N110253-059	N110261-192	
N110258-151	N110276-070		N110256-033	N110260-178	N110252-076	N110271-234	N110253-066	N110261-195	
N110258-167	N110276-181		N110256-034	N110260-179	N110252-077	N110271-237	N110253-070	N110261-200	
N110258-176	N110276-187		N110256-039	N110260-195	N110252-079	N110310-038	N110253-073	N110261-240	
N110258-178	N110276-188		N110256-045	N110260-222	N110252-081	N110310-047	N110253-076	N110261-258	
N110258-182	N110276-194		N110256-101	N110260-224	N110252-082	N110310-054	N110253-077	N110312-035	
N110259-001	N110284-063		N110256-102	N110260-225	N110252-083	N110310-081	N110253-080	N110312-057	
N110259-007	N110284-071		N110256-104	N110260-226	N110252-091	N110310-085	N110253-081	N110312-058	
N110259-075	N110284-109		N110256-108	N110260-227	N110252-095	N110310-101	N110253-084	N110312-077	
N110259-092	N110284-110		N110256-111	N110260-229	N110252-096	N110310-150	N110253-088	N110312-089	
N110259-129	N110284-116		N110256-112	N110260-233	N110252-099	N110311-001	N110253-092	N110313-003	
N110259-180	N110284-121		N110256-113	N110260-234	N110252-144	N110311-018	N110253-093	N110313-006	
N110260-022	N110284-165		N110256-115	N110260-235	N110252-145	N110311-037	N110253-099	N110313-007	
N110260-030	N110285-086		N110256-116	N110260-238	N110252-146	N110311-044	N110253-101	N110313-011	
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N110260-072	N111010-244		N110256-118	N110261-075	N110252-149	N110311-079	N110253-108	N110313-014	
N110260-108			N110257-032	N110261-079	N110252-150	N110311-100	N110253-109	N110313-017	
N110260-114			N110257-043	N110261-082	N110252-153	N110311-110	N110253-113	N110313-018	
N110260-141			N110257-061	N110261-083	N110252-154	N110311-137	N110253-115	N110313-033	
N110260-151			N110257-062	N110261-084	N110252-155	N110311-138	N110253-116	N110313-038	
N110260-195			N110257-064	N110261-085	N110252-158		N110253-117	N110313-042	
N110260-220			N110257-066	N110261-086			N110253-118	N110313-107	
N110261-042			N110257-068	N110261-088			N110253-121	N110313-137	
N110261-075			N110257-069	N110261-093			N110253-125	N110313-149	
N110261-079			N110257-075	N110261-095			N110253-126	N110344-039	
N110261-082			N110257-078	N110261-100			N110253-127	N110345-057	
N110261-102			N110257-079	N110261-102				N110345-176	
N110261-119			N110257-080	N110261-119				N11025-196	
			N110257-081	N110342-169					
			N110257-088	N110342-284					
			N110257-093	N110342-294					
			N110257-112	N111002-074					
			N110257-114	N111011-042					
			N110257-127	N111011-044					
			N110257-130	N111011-048					
			N110257-150	N111011-157					
			N110257-159	N111012-136					
			N110257-175	N111016-099					
			N110257-192	N111017-025					
			N110258-051	N111017-036					
			N110258-055	N111091-006					

Date Code

3 Digit
Serial
Number
Sticker