



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: November 12, 2015

In reply refer to: H-15-25 and -26

Mr. C. Douglas McMillon
President and Chief Executive Officer
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
702 SW 8th St.
Bentonville, AR 72716-6299

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation—railroad, highway, marine, and pipeline. The NTSB determines the probable cause of the accidents and issues safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. In addition, the NTSB carries out special studies concerning transportation safety and coordinates the resources of the federal government and other organizations to provide assistance to victims and their family members affected by major transportation disasters. We are providing the following information to urge Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., to take action on the safety recommendations being issued in this letter.

On October 27, 2015, the NTSB adopted its highway accident brief on the investigation of the roadway departure and overturn of a 15-passenger van on February 21, 2014, on Interstate 75 in Lake City Florida.¹ The van driver lost control of the vehicle when the left rear tire experienced a complete tire tread separation. Of the four van occupants ejected during the rollover, two died as a result of the crash. The report and the resulting recommendations may be found at our website, www.nts.gov, under brief number NTSB/HAB-15/01.

As a result of this investigation, the NTSB issued the following two recommendations to Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.:

H-15-25

Evaluate your current tire registration training material to determine its effectiveness and your employees' compliance with it.

¹ See *Fifteen-Passenger Van Roadway Departure and Overturn, Interstate 75, Lake City, Florida, February 21, 2014*, Highway Accident Brief NTSB/HAB-15/01 (Washington, DC: National Transportation Safety Board, 2015).

H-15-26

Verify that all of your stores comply with Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* 574.8, or take necessary actions to ensure their compliance.

Chairman HART, Vice Chairman DINH-ZARR, and Members SUMWALT and WEENER concurred in these recommendations.

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement them. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendations by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman

cc:

Ms. Emily Reynolds
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