

Safety Alert 2016

August 2016

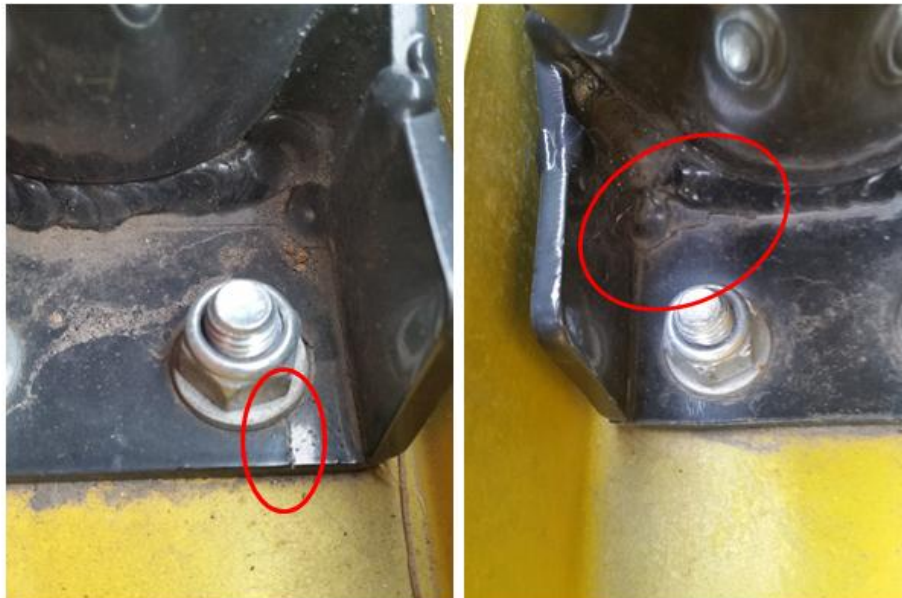


Inspection of Truck Mounted Attenuators (TMAs) for potential fatigue cracks in attenuator mounting brackets.

A recent Safety Alert from Ventia Pty. Ltd. in NSW has highlighted the need for inspection of Truck Mounted Attenuator (TMA) Attenuator Mounting Brackets, due to possible metal fatigue cracks. This alert involves a Verdegro Truck Mounted Attenuator Crash Systems BV Attenuator, however, fatigue cracks in the mounting brackets on other brand attenuators may be encountered and Mounting Pins should also be checked for wear.

This reinforces the VicRoads Guidelines for the use of Truck Mounted Attenuators – TMAs, page 5, Functional Specifications for TMAs, which require all Attenuators to be inspected for fatigue cracking in the mounting brackets at suitable intervals, or as specified in the manufacturer's maintenance manual. These inspections are to be recorded in the unit's maintenance logbook. Failure to do so could result in an uncontrolled release of the attenuator onto the road with potential for serious consequences.

The following photographs illustrate the fatigue cracks.



Examples of early fatigue cracks.