

# Ritchey Recall Notice



**Ritchey Design to recall wheels due to rear hub defect  
manufactured under license from American Classic.**

**Models: Protocol, Carbon Tubular / Clincher, WCS DS Road and WCS Mountain Rear Wheels**

San Carlos, CA – In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Ritchey Design has announced a voluntary recall affecting approximately 2000 WCS rear wheels, sold both to the aftermarket and to OEM customers. The problem is that the rear freehub body, manufactured under license from American Classic, may slip or altogether cease engagement with the freehub pawls, causing the rider to lose all forward drive without any warning. The design of the Ritchey WCS rear hub has since been corrected and manufactured correctly to eliminate this potentially hazardous condition.

The recall is limited to Ritchey WCS rear wheels produced between Jan 2003 and Summer 2005. **All Comp and Pro level wheels are NOT affected by this recall.** The internal design of the rear cassette freehub is comprised of a loop spring, 6 pawls, and a clutch plate. When pedaling, the spring engages the clutch plate, which actuates the pawls into the teeth on the bottom of the freehub body. The recall is based on two separate issues: a) the spring tip can break off without notice causing loss of all forward motion, b) the spring does not engage with the clutch plate properly, causing intermittent engagement. Older model WCS hubs are unaffected, visually differentiated as a low flange design whereas the model in question is a high flange design, see image.

Consumers should bring their wheel into their local bike shop to confirm their wheel is part of this recall. The consumer or shop should call Ritchey Design, at **888-PROTOCL (776-8625)**, and return the wheel for repair.

Consumer retailers and distributors can call Ritchey Design at **888-PROTOCL (776-8625)** or visit the web at **[www.ritcheylogic.com/wcsrecall](http://www.ritcheylogic.com/wcsrecall)**