

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

2005 SEP 14 P 2:28

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

Administrator
NHTSA
400 Seventh Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Brevard NC.

September 7, 2005

2005 SEP 16 AM 7:34

Qld 10/3/05

Dear Administrator,

This is my second letter to you since I'm not sure you received the first one. We are the owners of a 2005 Winnebago Sightseer model 29R. We believe that Winnebago Ind. is in violation of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 571.209. The problem is there is no vertical adjustment for the seat belt and in case the seat belt would cause serious damage to her if she were in an accident (see attached photos).

According to 49 Part 571.209 , g) Adjustment. (1) A Type 1 or Type 2 seat belt assembly shall be capable of adjustment to fit occupants whose dimensions and weight range from those of a 5th – percentile adult female to those of a 95th percentile adult male falls within these guide lines. Her wt is 130pds, Erect sitting height is 33in., Hip breath (sitting) is 14in., Hip circumference (sitting) is 42in., Waist circumference (sitting) is 32in., Chest depth is 8in., Chest circumference: Nipple is 38 ¾ in., Upper is 36 in., Lower is 33 ½ in.

ER: 10/3/05

Yet there is no adjustment for her to safely wear the seat belt. She is forced to wrap the shoulder portion around the arm rest making that part of the seat belt useless.

Winnebago tells me they are in compliance (see attached letter) and basically there is nothing they are going to do to rectify this situation. I am asking that you take some action against them to fix this problem. I hope you won't wait till someone gets seriously injured and then files a law suit. That would surely be shame.

Yours truly,



cc. Winnebago Industries Inc.
PO Box 152
Forest City, Iowa 50436



September 2, 2005

Brevard, NC

Dear

This is in response to your letter we received August 29, 2005.

Winnebago Industries® is always receptive to comments or criticism because they are a very important factor in our program for determining customer preferences. At times these comments bring to our attention a condition we may not have been aware of.

Winnebago Industries endeavors to build coaches that suit the requirements of the largest possible consumer market. In doing this, we are confronted with a wide variation in physical build and individual driving habits of our customers. It is difficult to determine exactly how each individual's requirements are satisfied. Our engineers always endeavor to design sufficient flexibility into coaches to provide the greatest measure of comfort and convenience to the vast majority of the motoring public.

There are requirements for seat belts in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 571.209. Winnebago Industries has designed and manufactured the 2005 Winnebago Sightseer® to comply with those regulations.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 800/537-1885.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Troy Swearingen", written in a cursive style.

Troy Swearingen
Service Advisor

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