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INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C . 552(B)(6)

NVS-280

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Oneontas, NY
September 22, 2011

SEP 29 2011

Administrator, NHTSA
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Ref: Unsafe Tire Pressures

CL-10430934-5912

Dear Sir;

About a month ago I purchased, from Camping World RV, Syracuse, NY, a new 2012 Winnebago View Profile, model 24G. This small motorhome is built on Sprinter/Mercedes-Benz chassis, is well-designed and engineered except for one glaring mistake. As delivered to me, and apparently as built by Winnebago, when equipped with stainless steel wheel-covers it is impossible to monitor inflation pressures in its original equipment tires. Failure to maintain correct pressures has been shown to be a frequent cause of tire failure in Recreational Vehicles. Blow-outs leading to loss of control are often results of these conditions.

I have attempted correction of this problem through installation of tire-valve extenders, as similar situations have plagued the RV industry for years, leading to the development of remedial devices which correct for this manufacturing deficiency. None of these local tire dealers have been able to successfully install them in my motorhome because of the complications presented when these wheel-covers are in place.

The Winnebago dealer who sold and delivered the vehicle to me has stated, through their service department manager, that a solution would be available for me were I to return to Syracuse, NY for them to install extender devices which would correct the problem, thus making tire pressure readings possible, leading then to correction of incorrect pressure and operation in safer condition.

If there is a way to correct for this problem, and it has been suggested by an authorized dealer, then why was the vehicle not delivered to me in its corrected, safer condition.

As stated earlier, similar problems have been wide-spread throughout the RV industry for many years, and Rvers have learned their responsibility to correct for the ever-present danger. Why haven't the manufacturers? What are they still delivering expensively engineered vehicles when solutions to the problems are available?

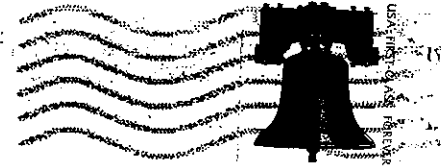
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