

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

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration		(1-888-327-4236) INTERNET:www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline		FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148	
		Date Received 17-OCT-2022 MAR 21 2023		Repository ☐	
				Reference No. 11489534	
OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)					
Name		Daytime Telephone Number		E-mail Address	
Address					
City Brewerton		State NY		ZIP Code	
		Evening Telephone Number			
The information you provide will be used to identify potential safety-related defects. We may share your information with the applicable vehicle manufacturer during an investigation or recall in accordance with the routine uses described in the agency's Privacy Act notice. See 49 FR 53971 (Sep. 3, 2004).					
VEHICLE INFORMATION					
17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side 5KEFA3828G1		MAKE DRV		Model MOBILE SUITE	
Date Purchased		Dealer's Name and Telephone Number Garcia's Ford-562-3641065		Engine No: Cylinders	
Original Owner ☒		Dealer's City Long Beach		Fuel Type:	
STATE CA		ZIP Code 90807			
Transmission Type ☐ Antilock Brakes ☐ Cruise Control		Powertrain		Incident Date(s) 01-MAY-2022	
FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION					
Vehicle Components Codes: 161000-STRUCTURE-FRAME AND MEMBERS				Failure Mileage	
				Failure Speed	
ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE					
Tire Make		Tire Model (Name or Number)		Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)	
DOT No. (Example: DOTM1 9AB036)		☐ Original Requirement ☐ Prior Repair		Failure Location:	
Tire Component Code				Tire Failure Type:	
ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE					
Make:		Date Manufactured:		Model No./Name:	
Seat Type:		Installation System:			
Child Seat Component Code:		Failed Part:			
APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION (Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), injury(ies).)					
Crash ☐ Yes ☒ No		Fire ☐ Yes ☒ No		Number of Persons Injured	
				Number of Deaths	
				Reported to Police N	
Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), Injury(ies). Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure, i.e. parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).					
The contact owns a 2016 DRV Mobile Suite. The contact stated that after reading an article on Facebook, he discovered that owners of similar model trailers had reported a cracked subframe. Upon inspection of his trailer, he also discovered that the frame on his trailer was also cracked. The dealer was notified of the failure and sent a service tech to repair the subframe. The contact also drove the trailer to the manufacturer where additional repairs were made to secure the subframe. Despite the repair, the contact noted that he was uncomfortable with the reliability of the trailer. The trailer had been repaired. The failure mileage was unknown. SEE ATTACHED FOR ALL UPDATES 2-24-23					
Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice.					
ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY					
The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579). This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.					

Dealer

Ballantyne RV and Marine INC
7447 Route 96
Victor, NY 14564
Purchase Date 1/6/16

Manufacture of Trailer

DRV
160W 750N
PO Box 235
Howie, IN 46746-0235
Phone 260-562-1075
S/N 5KEFA 3828
Model DRV Mobile suites 38RSSA
manufacture date 11-11-15

Manufacture of Frame

Lippert Components INC
Phone 866-524-7821
S/N 028-000-363022
manufacture date 11-8-15

Diagram of fifth wheel Frame with location of cracked frame



I reported this to the National Transportation Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for my safety and everyone that is on the road . When I was at DRV getting my frame repaired I did not get a very good feeling about the quality of engineering that was performed. I asked what caused the cracked frame. Chad Olinger from DRV said they don't know, I then asked if a Failure Analysis (FA) was performed he said no. I asked if any vibration / stress analysis and or modeling was performed he said no. So the only thing that DRV is doing is repairing what is broke and not knowing if they just moved the high stress point to another location.

Because of the answers I got every time I get into my vehicle and tow my trailer I hold my breath thinking that the frame may brake and I may loose control of my trailer causing an accident.

I personally know of two other cracked frames. I have herded approximately 30 other cracked frames on face book (DRV owners group - # crack frames) between 2014 and 2020 model years

Brian Youngman
8136 McCamidge Dr
Cicero NY 13039
NHTSA Reference # 11489076

Heath McEwen
325 Oriole Dr
St Charles MO 63301
Did not report to NHTSA