



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 06-058  
Date Opened: 12/14/2006  
Principal Investigator: Nate Seymour  
Subject: Unintentional Extension of Slideout

Manufacturer: Winnebago Industries, INC.  
Products: 2006 Itasca Navion Motorhome  
Population: 1500 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The latching system used to secure the slideout cooler does not clearly indicate it is latched or provide for a secondary catch to prevent full extension if not properly secured.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	0	0
Crashes/Fires:	1	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

\*Description Of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: Nate Seymour *NS*  
Div. Chief: Richard Boyd  
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: Model Year 2006 Navion Motorhomes are equipped with a slideout cooler located on the passenger side of the vehicle. the design is unique to Navion. Its outer fascia is the exterior body panel. Two twist knobs are used to secure the compartment in the closed position. The knobs are turned 180 degrees to allow unlatching of the slideout. In 2007 a safety catch was added to prevent the slideout from unintentional opening. The current design is such that one cannot tell by simply looking at the compartment to verify the latches are secured. The compartment can be fully closed and not latched and the twist knobs appear to be in the same position whether latched or unlatched.

An examination of peer vehicles revealed that many have a secondary latch or a means to visually determine if the compartment is properly secured.

ODI has opened this investigation to further investigate this matter.