



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

APR 03 2008

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Ron Stitcher
Vice President of Engineering
Newmar Corporation
P.O. Box 30
355 North Delaware Street
Nappanee, Indiana 46550-0030

PE07-061
NVS-214gtb

Subject: Lift-Assisted Cargo Door Systems Installed in Motor Homes Manufactured and Sold by Newmar Corporation that, when Unlatched, Open and Extend Outward From the Vehicle in a Near-Horizontal ("Gull-Wing") Position and are Retained in this Position until Closed and Latched.

Dear Mr. Stitcher,

This letter is to inform you that on March 24, 2008, the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) closed Preliminary Evaluation (PE07-061) which addressed certain lift-assisted cargo door systems installed in motor homes manufactured and sold by Newmar Corporation. In certain cases, owners had reported that the cargo doors had opened and extended outward from the vehicle to the near horizontal ("gull-wing") position when unlatched, and were retained in this raised position while the vehicle was being operated.

ODI's investigation was based on the concern that the protruding edge of an open / raised cargo door that extends outward from a moving vehicle could pose a risk of striking pedestrians, objects, and/or vehicles in proximity to the subject vehicle and that, if a portion of the motor home's cargo were to drop through an open / raised cargo door while the vehicle was being operated, the resulting road debris could pose a hazard to trailing vehicles that may strike the debris and/or pose a risk that a trailing vehicle may crash as a result of taking aggressive driving actions in an effort to avoid striking the unexpected debris.

Because of these concerns, ODI is initiating a one-year monitoring program at Newmar.

Newly Reported Incidents-

ODI requests Newmar to notify ODI within 48 hours when Newmar learns of any incident, whether or not confirmed, in which the cargo door has opened either (1) partially or (2) to the near-horizontal position regardless of the vehicle age and/or suspected cause. This request is ongoing and terminates on March 30, 2009, but may be extended if circumstances warrant. Each

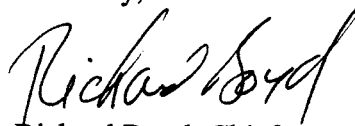


notification should be e-mailed to **tom.bowman@nhtsa.dot.gov** (phone 202-366-2583) with the information summarized below. The notification should provide as much of the requested incident information as possible. Timeliness is critical. Any of the requested information that is not immediately available at the time of initial incident notification must be provided as soon as it becomes available. Each notification should, at a minimum, include the following information:

No.	Information
1	Date of Report
2	Incident Date
3	VIN
4	Vehicle OEM (Mfr)
5	Model Year
6	Vehicle Make
7	Vehicle Model
8	Veh Mfg Date
9	Vehicle Purchase Date
10	Owner's Name
11	Owner's Street Address
12	Owner's State
13	Owner's ZIP code
14	Owner's Phone Number
15	Location of Incident
16	Description of Incident
17	Vehicle Mileage at Incident
18	Injury or Fatality (specify and describe)
19	Property Damage (describe)
20	Current Location of Vehicle

If you have any technical questions concerning this matter, please call Mr. Tom Bowman of my staff at (202) 366-2583.

Sincerely,



Richard Boyd, Chief
Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicle Division
Office of Defects Investigation