U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: EQ 13-004
Prompted by: 13E-019
Date Opened: 06/17/2013
Investigator: Cynthia Glass
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: Awning May Unfurl Unexpectedly

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Dometic Corporation
Products: WeatherPro and 9100 Power Awning Models
Population: 26,440 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Certain model motor powered awnings may unfurl while the recreation vehicle is parked or in transit.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This Equipment Query Investigation is opened.

Summary:

On April 19, 2013, Dometic corporation (Dometic) notified the NHTSA that it had decided a defect exists in certain model WeatherPro motor powered awnings with serial numbers starting with 805, 815, 825, 835, 845, 885, 855, and 905; certain model 9100 Power Awnings with serial numbers starting with 910, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, and 918; and, certain model awning motor service kits with part numbers 3307923 and 3310423 manufactured between February 13, 2013 and April 9, 2013. Installers may unintentionally fail to strictly follow the instructions in sequence and may not remove a torsion protective anti-rotation cotter pin from the end cap of the fabric roller tube assembly. If the installation instructions are not strictly followed in sequence, the motor assembly screws may experience abnormal torque and may shear, enabling the awning fabric to possibly unfurl while the recreation vehicle is either parked or in transit. Dometic identified the total number of units affected to be 26,440. This matter was assigned recall number 13E-019.

Dometic has supplied the NHTSA with a purchaser list identifying 60 manufacturers that may have incorporated these awnings into their recreational vehicles. However, a Part 573 Report has not been filed by all of these potentially affected recreational vehicle manufacturers at this time.

The purpose of this EQ investigation is to write to the companies that purchased the Dometic awning, notify them of this defect, and ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate.