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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Via USPS Certified Mail

July 15, 2014

Lippert Components, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. Mike Becker
1701 Century Drive
Goshen, IN 46528

NVS-215cg
EQ 14-008
14V-146
14V-156

Subject: Safety Recalls EQ 14-008, 14V-146, 14V-156

Dear Mr. Mike Becker:

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA), Office of Defects Investigation (ODI), Recall Management Division (RMD) is conducting an equipment query (EQ) investigation in relation to a reported material quality defect in certain frame spring hangers manufactured by Lippert Components, Inc. (Lippert) that may fracture under stress. This investigation has been assigned the identification **EQ 14-008**.

In a letter dated March 26, 2014, Keystone RV Company (Keystone) notified the NHTSA that it decided a defect exists in certain model year (MY) 2014 Summerland, Springdale, Bullet, and Cougar recreational travel trailers and fifth wheels built with a 4¼ spring hanger, with a build date of February 13, 2014 to February 24, 2014. The affected vehicles may have been built with Lippert frame spring hangers that may be brittle and susceptible to fracturing. A fractured spring hanger may result in a loss of control of the trailer, increasing the risk of a crash. This matter was assigned recall number 14V-146. A copy of the notification is enclosed for your information.

In a letter dated March 31, 2014, Crossroads RV (Crossroads) notified the NHTSA that it decided a defect exists in certain MY 2015 Sunset Trail, Zinger, and Reserve recreational travel trailers manufactured February 20, 2014, through February 28, 2014. The affected trailers may have been built with Lippert frame spring hangers that may be brittle and susceptible to fracturing. A fractured spring hanger may result in a loss of control of the trailer, increasing the risk of a crash. This matter was assigned recall number 14V-156. A copy of the notification is enclosed for your information.

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of a potential safety defect in the frame spring hangers your company may have manufactured, and to remind you of your responsibility under Federal Law.

Manufacturers of motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment sold, offered for sale, delivered, or imported into the United States must notify NHTSA, within five (5) business days, when they first learn a safety defect or a noncompliance with a Federal Motor Vehicle

Safety Standard exists in one of their vehicles or equipment. In the case of a defect or noncompliance in original equipment installed in the vehicles of more than one manufacturer, notification to NHTSA must be made by the original equipment manufacturer as to the equipment item, and by each vehicle manufacturer as to those vehicles it manufactured in which the defective equipment was installed. The content of that notification is specified in 49 U.S.C. 573.6, Defect and Noncompliance Information Report. As of this date, we have not received the required report from your company.

In view of this safety risk and your company's obligations under Federal law should you decide your equipment contains a safety defect, we are also reminding your company that it is required to issue timely notification to its purchasers. This could include, but not be limited to new vehicle manufacturer purchasers, other equipment suppliers, or vehicle owners, depending on whether the your company sold the equipment as original or replacement equipment, or some combination. In advance of issuing its owner notification letters, your company must submit a draft of its letter to NHTSA for review. Your company is reminded that this letter must meet the requirements of 49 CFR 577.5, "Notification pursuant to a manufacturer's decision." We are also reminding your company that it is required to notify dealers and distributors as required by 49 CFR 577.13.

In addition to the Defect Information Report and the draft owner notification letter, please also provide a proposed schedule for conducting the required owner and dealer notifications that includes the following information:

a. the approximate date on which the owner notification will begin;
b. the approximate date on which the owner notification will be completed (if the owner notification is to be staggered, give the beginning and ending owner notification date for each segment); and,
c. the approximate date on which the dealer notification will be completed.

Please further note that you must file six quarterly recall status reports as required by 49 CFR 573.7. These reports are to be filed on consecutive yearly quarters beginning with the quarter in which notification to owners begins.

If your company does not agree that the frame spring hangers it manufactured are defective, and therefore will not conduct a safety recall of the frame spring hangers, you must submit a written response explaining that decision and include all supporting documents, analysis, and/or test reports.

This letter is being sent to your company pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30166, which authorizes NHTSA to conduct any investigation that may be necessary to enforce Chapter 301 of Title 49. Your company's failure to respond promptly and fully to this letter could subject your company to civil penalties pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30165 or lead to an action for injunctive relief pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30163.

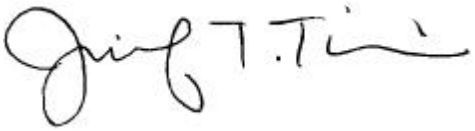
If your company claims that any of the information or documents provided in response to this information request constitute confidential commercial material within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4), or are protected from disclosure pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1905, your company must submit supporting information together with the materials that are the subject of the confidentiality request, in accordance with 49 CFR Part 512, as amended (69 Fed. Reg. 21409 et seq; April 21, 2004), to the Office of Chief Counsel (NCC-111), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room W41-227, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington,

D.C. 20590. Your company is required to submit two copies of the documents containing allegedly confidential information (except only one copy of blueprints) and one copy of the documents from which information claimed to be confidential has been deleted. Please remember that the word "CONFIDENTIAL" must appear at the top of each page containing information claimed to be confidential, and the information must be clearly identified in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 512.6.

Your company's written response must be submitted to this office within 10 days of receiving this letter. In your response, please be certain to include a reference to this matter's identification number which is **EQ 14-008**.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Cynthia Glass of my staff at (202) 366-2920 or by e-mail at cynthia.glass@dot.gov. Response submissions may be made by US Mail, fax (202) 366-7882, or e-mail rmd.odi@dot.gov and cynthia.glass@dot.gov.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

Enclosures