



Foretravel, inc.

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January 29, 2004

04V-040 ① of ②

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Re: NHTSA Assigned Campaign No. 03E-061

Dear Mr. Weinstein,

Enclosed you will find the Defect and Non Compliance Report for the above recall as prepared by Foretravel, Inc. Regarding the Driver/Passenger chair recall by Villa International.

If you have questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to give me a call. My direct phone # is (936)-564-8367 extension 254, Fax # (936)-559-8923.

Sincerely,

Mark Harvey
Director of Warranty and Customer Assistance
Foretravel, Inc.

Enclosure

Form Approved: O.M.B. No. 3127-0094

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report⁽¹⁾

On January 26, 2004, Foretravel, Inc. [MFR] decided that a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 571:5104 exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: January 28, 2004

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable):

03E-061

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Foretravel, Inc.
1221 NW Stallings Drive
Nacogdoches, TX 75964

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Mark Harvey
Director of Warranty and Customer Assistance
Foretravel, Inc.

Telephone Number: (936) 564-8367 Fax No.: (936) 559-8923

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Mark Harvey
Director of Warranty and Customer Assistance
Foretravel, Inc.

Signed: _____

Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Forestview **Model Years Involved:** 2004 **Model(s):** U270/U295/U320

Production Dates: Beginning: 06/06/03 **Ending:** 12/15/03

VIN Ranges: Beginning: 1F98D54094N054651 **Ending:** 1F98D53484N054712

Vehicle Type: Class "A" Motorhome **Bodystyle:** Unicoach

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

See Equipment Manufacturer's Report # 03E-061

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period?

100% of the 60 vehicles manufactured during this time period may actually contain the defect.

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model: U270/U295/U320

Year: 2004

Number of Potentially Affected Vehicles: 60

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

Not Known

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how

the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles: Foretravel Inc. was contacted by the Vendor/Supplier notifying us of the recall. See Vendor/Supplier Report # 03E-061

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

See Vendor Supplier Report # 03E-061

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Same as above.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Same as above.

Identify any warning, which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

Same as above.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Villa Furniture Mfg Co DBA Villa International
502 E. Julianna Street
Anaheim, California 92801

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Robert Long (Sales)

Mike Ramirez (National Sales Manager)

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

There have been no reports of accidents, injuries, fires, crashes, or fatalities with regard to this.

12/02/2003-Received a letter from Mike Ramirez with Villa International wanting list of coaches and owners possibly involved in campaign along with a current dealer list. Faxed info to him as requested. He also let me know in the letter that Villa would be conducting the recall with NHTSA.

1/20/2004-Received box of parts and installation instructions from Foretravel Engineering Dept. for performing recall. Contacted Mike Ramirez with Villa International to determine how to get vehicles repaired. Began repairing units that were on hand at Nacogdoches facility.

1/28/04-Contacted Judith Taylor questioning for Foretravel need to fill out 573 report. She informed me we need to submit.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

Determined as Above.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

See Equipment Manufacturer's Report # 03E-061

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Same as Above.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

The production remedy is identical to recall remedy.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

1) Immediately Forstravel Inc. will send Villa International complete updated Customer address list as well as current Dealer list and mailing labels for customer notification of recall.

2) The Forstravel dealer /distributor /retailer network will have V.I.N. numbers entered into their respective computer database, notifying them a recall campaign exists on the affected vehicles. Dealers/retailers not linked with Forstravel Inc. directly will be notified by fax of potentially affected recall vehicles in their stock inventory.

3) Needed parts or instructions will be obtained from the Vendor/Supplier.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.

1. ¹Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition, which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579, As Amended: This information is requested pursuant to the authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act 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 statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

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Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment

PART 575 Defect and Noncompliance Report

On November 24, 2003, VITA International [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety) (a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 207) exists in items of motor vehicle equipment listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 575 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: November 24, 2003

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): _____

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer (brand name/trademark owner of the recalled item of equipment). If the recalled item of equipment is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

VITA Furniture Mills Co DBA VITA International

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Robert Long Sales

Telephone Number: 714-535-7272 Fax No.: 714-535-1271

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Robert Long

Sales

Signed:



Amended
12-11-03
NOV 23 11 32 AM '03
NHTSA

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I. Identify the Recalled Items of Equipment

1. Identify the Items of Equipment involved in this Recall, for each make and model or applicable item of equipment product line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the item of equipment), provide:

Generic name of the item: Driver/Passenger Seat

Model: Integrated Seat Belt Driver/Passenger Frame w/1179 or #1180 Adjusted w/1" Intra on seat belt buckle mount

Function: Driver/Passenger seat

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: _____ Model:

Part Number: _____ Size:

Function:

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: _____ Model:

Part Number: _____ Size:

Function:

Model Years Involved:

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: _____ Model:

Part Number: _____ Size:

Function:

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacturers provided above, that are recalled

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model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1994, through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

90%

II. Identifying the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of items of equipment recalled potentially containing the defect or non-compliance.

Model	Year	Number of Items Potentially Involved
Mercury Essex Driver/Passenger Seat	2004	290
Continental Driver/Passenger Seat	2004	100
BlueBird Driver/Passenger Seat	2004	6
Mercury Wildcat Driver/Passenger Seat	2004	400
Mercury Sigmata Driver/Passenger Seat	2004	60
Mercury Holiday Rambler 29' A/B Driver/Passenger	2004	40

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 256 Motor Homes

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect or non-compliance: 100%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined—in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled items of equipment: This is a new product for the model year 2004 Driver/Passenger seat which began production on March 1, 2003. Four different manufacturers use this seat. The affected seat runs a 1" steel tube as a spacer on the seat but buckle to make is regulatory.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

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A. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

The Integrated Seat Belt Driver/Passenger System w/01170 or 01180 Federal w/1™ side air seat belt buckle mount has a seat belt buckle anchorage that can fall during 207210 testing.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

The seat belt buckle anchorage in the frame can fall in seat belt load applied by FMVSS 207210.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Removal of the seat belt buckle anchorage from the seat frame before full load.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

None

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier.

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should

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include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

November 20, 2008. VITA International performed a FMVSS 207/210 test on the Integrated Seat Belt Driver/Passenger Frame w/1170 Federal w/1" tube on seat belt buckle mount in an effort to verify force resistance. The seat belt anchor failed to meet load requirements.

November 20, 2008 Remedy tested and confirmed. VITA developed a bushing that will reinforce the anchorage on the Integrated Seat Belt Driver/Passenger Frame w/1170 Federal w/1" tube on seat belt buckle mount by using a bushing insert on the seat belt buckle bolt. This configuration passed FMVSS 207/210 earlier on November 20, 2008.

December 4, 2008 Remedy tested and confirmed. VITA developed a bushing that will reinforce the anchorage on the Integrated Seat Belt Driver/Passenger Frame w/1180 Federal w/1" tube on seat belt buckle mount by using a bushing insert on the seat belt buckle bolt. This configuration passed FMVSS 207/210 testing on December 30, 2008.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Provide a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

VITA International recommends replacing all crash zones of the affected units built since March 1st 2009 and provide for installation of the seat belt buckle anchorage bushing and 3/8-16x2 Grade 5 Hex Bolt. VITA International will provide the necessary parts and installation instructions for the units to meet the requirements of FMVSS 207/210.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

The remedy assembly is a 7/8" bushing that is inserted into the 1" tube at the seat belt buckle anchorage and secured together using a 3/8-16x2 Grade 5 Hex Bolt.

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Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

Effective November 20, 2003 Production of Vilia International model #2000 Drive/Passenger seat using 1" spacer for seat belt buckle anchors with Adult 1170 power seat cover use the backing insert and a 3/8-16x2 Grade 5 Hex Bolt.

Effective December 4, 2003 Production of Vilia International model #2000 Drive/Passenger seat using 1" spacer for seat belt buckle anchors with Adult 1180 power seat cover use the backing insert and a 3/8-16x2 Grade 5 Hex Bolt.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Notification will start TBD.

Production Remedy determined November 20, 2003 and December 4, 2003

Field Remedy determined November 20, 2003 and December 4, 2003

Parts are currently available.

Date the Owner list will be available TBD

Date the Dealer notice will be sent out TBD

Date the Owner notice will be sent out TBD

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A **DRAFT** copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-364-7812) for review prior to mailing.

Note: These documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.