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2004 MAR 29 10:23 AM
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

MINSTER, OHIO
(419) 628-3677

FT. LORAMIE OFFICE
31 S. MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 320
FT. LORAMIE, OHIO 45845
(937) 295-2983
FAX: (937) 295-3633

SENDER'S E-MAIL:
dbensman@fgks-law.com

March 24, 2004

04V-148 ① of ②

**VIA E-MAIL AND
CERTIFIED MAIL,
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Office of Defects Investigation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Four Winds International Corporation Recall
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Gentlemen:

Our office is general counsel for Four Winds International Corporation ("Four Winds"), which is located in Elkhart, Indiana. On behalf of Four Winds, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of a defect in certain Class C motorhomes which has been determined by Four Winds to be safety related.

A. Manufacturer; Identification of Vehicles.

The manufacturer is Four Winds International Corporation, 701 County Road 15, P. O. Box 1486, Elkhart, Indiana 46515-1486. Four Winds has determined that a defect may be present on certain 2003 model year Class C Dutchmen Express, Four Winds 5000, and Chateau Sport motorhomes manufactured between September, 2002 and February, 2003. The total number of motorhomes that originally contained this defect was 101, which included 2 motorhomes sold in Canada. However, as a result of warranty work performed on this defect to date, 24 of the motorhomes have been repaired. As a result the total number of motorhomes that still need to be repaired in connection with this recall campaign is 77, which includes the 2 motorhomes that were sold in Canada. This total includes all motorhomes retail sold or currently located on dealer lots. The information available to Four Winds indicates that 100% of the subject motorhomes contain the defect.

B. Recall Population.

1. Dutchmen Express Models. The total number of 2003 Dutchmen Express motorhomes subject to this recall campaign is 18, which does not include any motorhomes that were sold in Canada. The Dutchmen Express motorhomes subject to this recall campaign have serial numbers beginning at ECC028371 and ending at ECC029144.
2. Four Winds 5000 Models. The total number of 2003 Four Winds 5000 motorhomes subject to this recall campaign is 44, which does not include any motorhomes sold in Canada. The Four Winds 5000 motorhomes subject to this recall campaign have serial numbers beginning at FCC028361 and ending at FCC029225.
3. Chateau Sport Models. The total number of 2003 Chateau Sport motorhomes subject to this recall campaign is 15, which includes 2 motorhomes that were sold in Canada. The Chateau Sport motorhomes subject to this recall campaign have serial numbers beginning at SCC028478 and ending at SCC029182.

C. Chronology of Principal Events.

Four Winds will provide NHTSA with a chronology of the principal events that were the basis for the determination of the defect in a follow-up report.

D. Description of Defect.

The defect identified by Four Winds involves the fuel delivery system for the auxiliary generator located on motorhomes built on a Chevrolet chassis. Use of the auxiliary generator while the chassis engine is in operation may cause the generator to receive excess fuel supply pressure, resulting in rough operation of the generator due to flooding and potential gasoline leakage at the generator carburetor area. A fire could result if the generator and the chassis engine are operating simultaneously, which could in turn result in injury or death to the occupants of the motorhome.

E. Remedying of Defect.

The program to be implemented by Four Winds to remedy the defect will include notification to all registered owners of the subject motorhomes. The owners will be advised to bring their motorhome to an authorized Four Winds' dealer or service center for repair. The repair of the defect will consist of installing a regulator bracket and rerouting the fuel line to the back side of the generator. Use of this regulator will prevent the auxiliary generator from receiving excess fuel supply pressure. The procedure for the installation of the regulator bracket and rerouting of the fuel line has been provided to Four Winds' authorized dealers as set forth in the Technical Service Bulletin 0303

referred to below. As set forth in the enclosed owner notification, the defect will be corrected by Four Winds at no expense to the owner.

F. Recall Notifications.

Enclosed as Exhibit "A" is the proposed notification entitled "Vehicle Safety Defect Service Bulletin" that will be sent to registered owners of the subject motorhomes. Enclosed as Exhibit "B" is the proposed notification also entitled "Vehicle Safety Defect Service Bulletin" that will be sent to Four Winds' authorized dealers, along with the attached Technical Service Bulletin 0303 which outlines the procedures to be used by the dealers to correct the defect. Also enclosed as Exhibit "C" is a draft of the language to be included on a postcard to be forwarded with the notification letter to the registered owners. I have also enclosed a copy of the envelope that will contain the notification letter being sent to the registered owners.

The enclosed service bulletins, postcard, and envelope are being submitted to NHTSA for your pre-review. Four Winds intends to mail the owner notification and dealer notification service bulletins and postcards within 30 days after receiving approval of the documents by NHTSA and the release of the NHTSA recall information to Four Winds.

G. Campaign Number.

Four Winds has designated R030005 as its internal campaign number for this recall. However, in the attached service bulletins, Four Winds will reference the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

I would appreciate your providing me with a pre-review determination of the enclosed documents at your earliest convenience. Please contact the undersigned at (937) 492-1271 after you have had an opportunity to review the documents. I trust that you will find the enclosed documents comply with the NHTSA regulations and will approve the documents for form and content.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Daniel A. Bensman

dja

Enclosures

cc: Four Winds International Corporation
Mr. John M. Garmhausen

Four Winds

INTERNATIONAL

Visit our website at www.fourwinds-rv.com

701 C.R. 15, P.O. Box 1486 • Elkhart, IN 46515-1486 • Phone (574) 266-1111 • Fax (574) 293-5256

March 18, 2004

VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECT SERVICE BULLETIN

Recall Campaign No: TBD

Four Winds International Corporation File Number: R030005

Generator Fuel Fill

Re: Safety Recall – Generator Fuel Fill

Dear Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Four Winds International has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2003 Four Winds Class C Four Winds 5000, Chateau Sport and Dutchmen Express motorhomes manufactured between September 2002 and February 2003. These motorhomes were manufactured with generators that may receive excess fuel supply pressure when the chassis engine is in operation, resulting in rough generator engine operation due to flooding and the potential gasoline leakage at the generator carburetor area. A fire could result if the generator and the chassis engine are operated simultaneously, which could cause death or injury to the motorhome occupants. According to our records, your motorhome may contain this potential defect.

The remedy will consist of mounting a regulator bracket and rerouting the fuel line to the back side of the generator. This repair will be done at no charge to you.

You may contact your Four Winds International dealer or service center to arrange for a service appointment. If you need assistance in locating a dealer or service center in your area or you are having difficulty setting a service appointment, please contact us at 574-266-1111. Instructions for making this correction have been sent to your dealer and parts are readily available.

While the time for the remedy of the defect is expected to take approximately a half an hour, your dealer or service center may require you to leave the motorhome for a longer period of time to allow for the scheduling of such remedy.

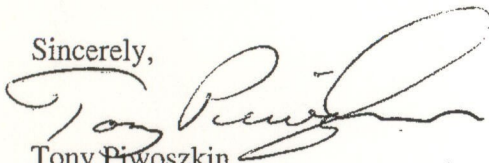
If the non-compliance referred to above has been repaired on your motorhome prior to the receipt of this recall notification, and if you incurred any direct cost in connection with obtaining such repair, you may seek reimbursement from Four Winds International. In order to obtain such reimbursement you must submit the following information: (1) Your name and mailing address; (2) The VIN (vehicle identification number) number for your motorhome; (3) A reference to this recall campaign; and (4) A copy of the receipt or invoice for the repair.

This reimbursement may be obtained by sending your request for reimbursement along with the requested information referred to above to Four Winds International Corporation, P.O. Box 1486, Elkhart, IN 46515-1486.

Four Winds has notified the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of this recall and the procedures involved. However, should Four Winds fail or be unable to correct the non-compliance without charge, you may write to Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590 or call the toll free Auto Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236.

Federal regulation requires any lessor receiving this letter to forward it to the lessee within 10 days.

Sincerely,



Tony Prwoszkina
Director of Customer Service
Four Winds International

Enclosure

Four Winds

INTERNATIONAL

Visit our website at www.fourwinds-rv.com

701 C.R. 15, P.O. Box 1486 ● Elkhart, IN 46515-1486 ● Phone (574) 266-1111 ● Fax (574) 293-5256

March 18, 2004

VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECT SERVICE BULLETIN

Recall Campaign No: TBD

Four Winds International Corporation File Number: R030005

Generator Fuel Fill

Re: Safety Recall – Generator Fuel Fill

Dear Four Winds International Dealer:

Four Winds International has initiated a safety recall campaign relating to 2003 model year Class C motorhomes manufactured from September 2002 to February 2003. A copy of the notification letter that is being sent to owners is enclosed.

The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act provides that each vehicle that is subject to a recall campaign of this type must be adequately repaired within a reasonable time after the owner has tendered it for repair. Generally, failure to repair within sixty (60) days after the owner's first delivery for repair is assumed to be an unreasonable delay.

The Issue

Certain Class C motorhomes were manufactured with generators that may receive excess fuel supply pressure when the chassis engine is in operation, resulting in rough generator engine operation due to flooding and the potential gasoline leakage at the generator carburetor area. A fire could result if the generator and the chassis engine are operated simultaneously, which could cause death or injury to the motorhome occupants.

Affected Motorhomes

Affected motorhomes are 2003 Class C Four Winds 5000, Chateau Sport and Dutchmen Express motorhomes built on a Chevrolet chassis.

If our records indicate that you have any of the affected motorhomes in your inventory you will also receive an owner notification letter identifying those units.

The Repair

The repair will consist of mounting a regulator bracket and rerouting the fuel line to the back side of the generator. Instructions are included for this process. Four Winds International is prepared to pay .5 hour (s) to complete this repair.

Dealer Campaign Responsibility

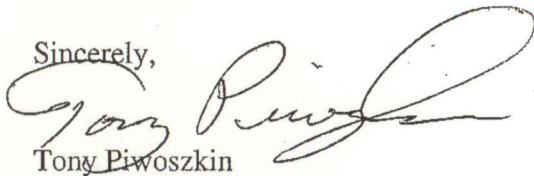
All unsold motorhomes in your possession that are subject to this recall campaign must be held and inspected/repared in accordance with the service procedure of this campaign bulletin before owners can take possession of these motorhomes. Please service all motorhomes subject to this recall campaign at no charge to the owners, regardless of mileage, age or vehicle ownership, from this time forward.

In addition to a letter, owners will receive a recall card. The motorhome owner will present this card to you upon arrival for the service appointment. Once the repair has been completed please fill in the appropriate information and return it to Four Winds International along with your claim for payment.

You should contact owners of motorhomes recently sold from your vehicle inventory for which you have received the owner notification letter and make arrangements to perform the required correction according to the instructions enclosed with this bulletin. At a minimum, mail the owner a copy of the owner notification letter accompanying this bulletin.

In summary, whenever a motorhome subject to this campaign enters your vehicle inventory or is in your dealership for service in the future, please take the necessary steps to be sure the campaign correction has been made before selling or releasing the motorhome.

Sincerely,



Tony Piwoszkin
Director of Customer Service
Four Winds International

TSB 0303

Installation Instructions

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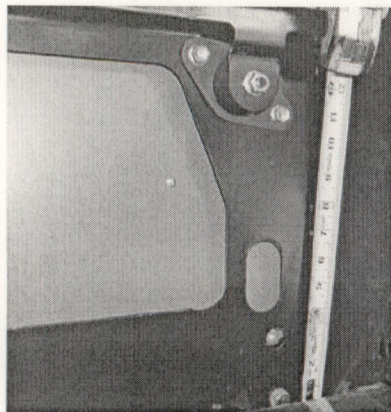
.5 Hour Labor Allowance

WARNING: Before starting this installation, the following must be observed. The chassis engine must be off, disconnect the coach battery, ensure all external power to coach is disconnected and chock the unit wheels.

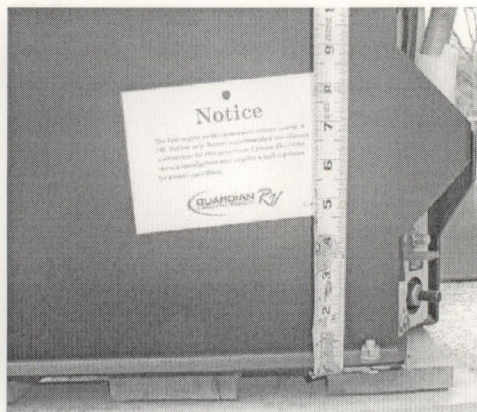


Parts List

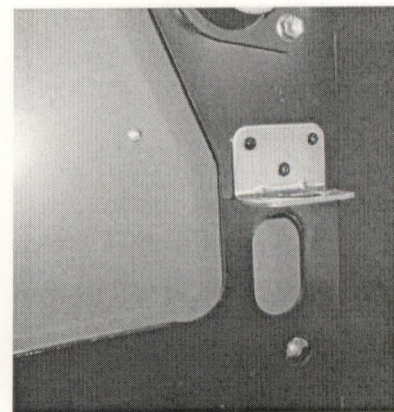
- (1) Regulator Box Assembly
- (4) #8x1/2" Self Tapping Screws
- (3) #4 Hose Clamps
- (50") 5/16" I.D. Fuel Hose
- (3) Tie Wraps



1A-Onan



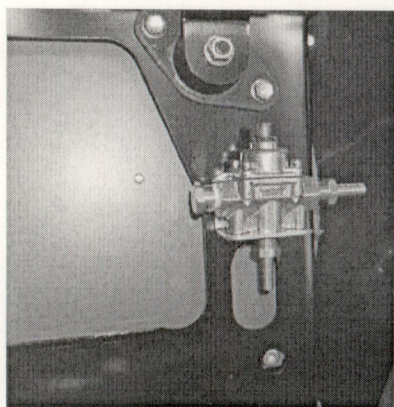
1B-Generac



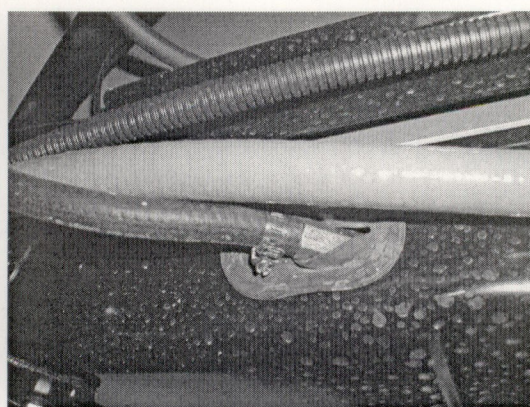
1C- Bracket Installed

CAUTION: Make sure there are no open flames or sparks when performing these service steps.

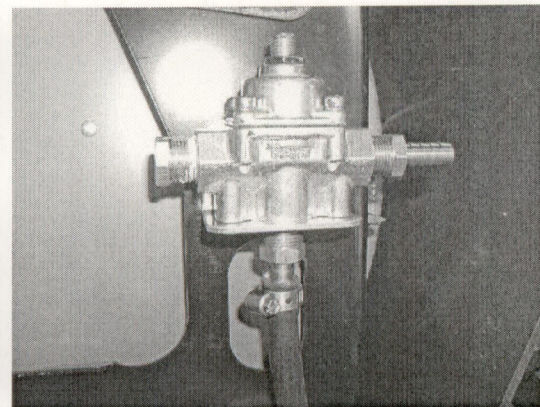
1. Mount the regulator bracket on the rear side of generator hang down kit using the #8x1/2" self tapping screws provided. This should be 7" above bottom. For Onan, this is located on the opposite side of the generator fuel intake. For Generac it is located on the same side.



2-Regulator to bracket

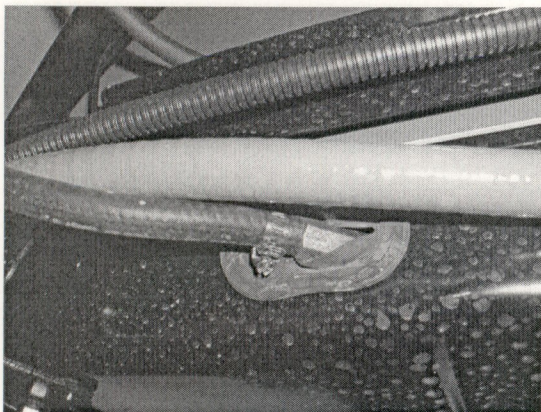


3A - Fuel Line at generator

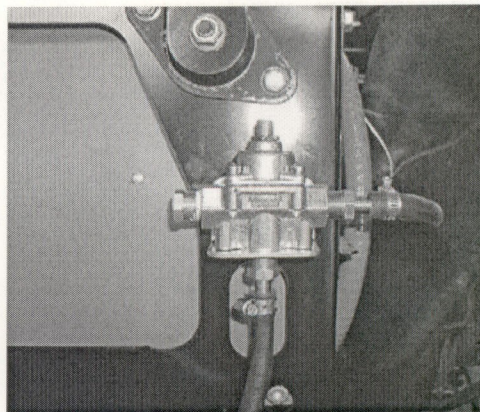


3B - Fuel line to regulator inlet

2. Mount the regulator onto the bracket (as shown) using the two tri lobe screws in the regulator box. The inlet should be facing down, the plug on left and fuel outlet facing right.
3. Unclamp the fuel line at the generator fuel inlet and move to the regulator inlet (at bottom) and reclamp.

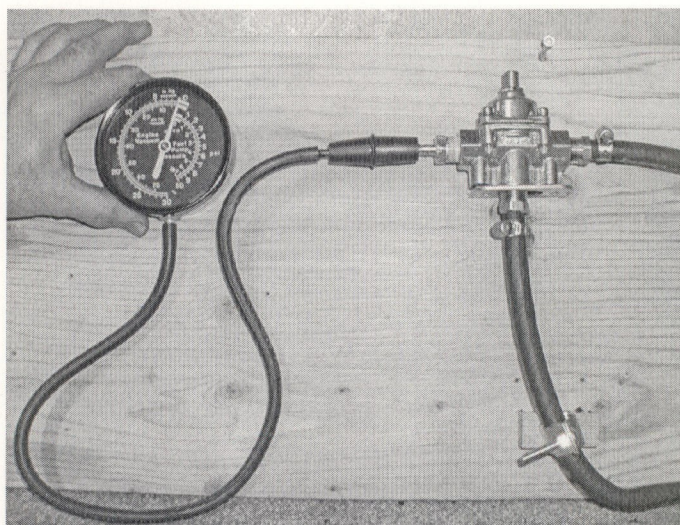


4 - Fasten hose back to fuel inlet



5 - Install fuel line to output side of regulator

4. Route the supplied fuel hose around the back side of generator (while facing generator) and fasten it to the generator fuel intake.
5. Install the supplied 5/16" fuel line to the "output" side of the regulator (right side). The regulator has been preset to maintain no more than 2 psi pressure. We recommend that you confirm that the psi is between 1-1/2 to 2 psi. Reconnect the chassis battery.



6 - Fuel Pressure Gauge Connected to Left Side of Regulator

6. Connect your fuel pressure gauge to the plugged side (left side) of the regulator (like our test panel above). If you do not have a fuel pressure gauge kit, they may be purchased from Advance Auto or Auto Zone (part#CP-7803) for under \$20.00. Clamp both ends of the hose. Start the chassis engine and generator and make sure the regulator is still holding pressure between 1-1/2 and 2 psi. If the setting varies from the preset psi, refer to the Holley instructions for regulator adjustment procedures.
7. After the check, reposition the brass plug into the regulator and secure fuel line with tie wraps provided.
8. Tighten all hose clamps. Verify that no leaks are present when generator or chassis engine is running.

EXHIBIT "C"

FOUR WINDS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

Recall # _____

Please complete the following information and mail this card immediately if your motorhome has been sold. If the unit is still in your possession, please return this card after the installation of the regulator bracket on the auxiliary generator has been completed. The serial number is printed on the data tag located on the interior wall of your motorhome next to the driver's seat.

VIN Number _____

_____ The installation of the regulator bracket on the auxiliary generator has been completed by:

Service Center: _____

Date: _____

_____ I have sold my motorhome to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

*Four Winds International Corporation
P.O. Box 1486
Elkhart, Indiana 46515-1486*

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE