



COUNTRY COACH

Mr. George Person
Chief, Recall Management Office
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

04V-463
(4 pages)

21 September 2004

Subject: 573 Submittal

Dear Mr. Person:

Country Coach, Inc. has decided that a potential safety defect exists with the flexible rubber hose used for the Liquid Propane (LP) gas cook tops. LP cook tops were installed with a flexible rubber hose listed for use with LP gas. The use of multiple burners at the same time or the use of oversized cooking vessels could cause heat to collect inside the cook top base and result in the melting or burning of the flexible rubber hose. If undetected the hose could burn through and result in a LP gas fed fire. This safety defect is related to Motor Vehicle Safety.

A customer notified Country Coach on August 30th that while using multiple burners on the LP cook top, the flexible rubber hose had begun to melt due to the build up of heat inside the cook top base. A portion of the damaged hose was returned to Country Coach for inspection on September 3, 2004. After further investigation it was determined that the flexible rubber hose will melt and burn as the heat generated by the cook top burners collects inside the base.

Country Coach has determined that the repair will be the replacement of the flexible rubber hose with copper tubing. This repair and any associated parts will be performed and provided at no cost to the owner.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 541-998-3720 x138.

Sincerely,

Gary Dwyer, Director, QA and Compliance Administration

THE WORLD'S FINEST MOTORCOACHES

135 East First Avenue | PO Box 400 | Junction City, OR 97448

SEP 21 2004
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**Safety Defect Information Report
Pursuant to 49 CFR part 573**

Country Coach, Inc. has decided that certain motor homes it manufactured have a safety defect. Country Coach is hereby providing notification to your office in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573.

The information required by your regulations follows.

1. **573.5 (c)(1) Manufacturer's name and address.**

Country Coach, Inc.
135 East First Ave.
P.O. Box 400
Junction City, OR 97448

2. **573.5 (c)(2) Equipment involved in this notification:**

Model Year: 2004 Allure Motorhomes manufactured from July 2003 to May 2004

VIN Range: 4U7A8EY1541103541 – 4U7A8CY1241104060

Vehicle Type: MPV

Bodystyle: Motor Home

Model Year: 2004 Inspire Motorhomes manufactured from May 2003 to March 2004

VIN Range: 4U7K5EK1541103318 – 4U7K6EK1241103919

Vehicle Type: MPV

Bodystyle: Motor Home

Model Year: 2005 Inspire Motorhomes manufactured from March 2004 to May 2004

VIN Range: 4U7K6ES1751103920 – 4U7K6ES1551104080

Vehicle Type: MPV

Bodystyle: Motor Home

3. **573.5 (c)(3) Total number of items of equipment:**

A total of 112 Model Year 2004 Allure motor homes are involved. All 112 motor homes are consumer owned.

A total of 172 Model Year 2004 Inspire motor homes are involved. All 172 motor homes are consumer owned.

A total of 65 Model Year 2005 Inspire motor homes are involved. All 65 motor homes are consumer owned.

A total of 349 motor homes are involved.

4. **573.5 (c)(4) Approximate percentage of equipment estimated to actually contain the noncompliance:**

100% of the motor homes identified in Item 2, above, have the safety defect.

5. **573.5 (c)(5) Description of the safety defect:**

Brief summary of safety defect:

Liquid Propane gas (LP) cook tops were installed in the affected motor homes using a flexible rubber hose that could burn or melt. The flexible hose attaches inside the base of the cook top and is located near the burners.

Detailed description of noncompliance:

LP cook tops were installed with a flexible rubber hose listed for use with LP gas. The use of multiple burners at the same time or the use of oversized cooking vessels could cause heat to collect inside the cook top base and result in the melting or burning of the flexible rubber hose. If undetected the hose could burn through and result in a LP gas fed fire.

6. **Chronological summary of events leading to this determination:**

A customer notified Country Coach on August 30th that while using multiple burners on the LP cook top, the flexible rubber hose had begun to melt due to the build up of heat inside the cook top base. A portion of the damaged hose was returned to Country Coach for inspection on September 3, 2004. After further investigation it was determined that the flexible rubber hose will melt and burn as the heat generated by the cook top burners collects inside the base.

At the conclusion of the investigation, it was determined on September 14, 2004 that a safety defect existed.

7. **573.5 (c)(8) Description of proposed remedy:**

Country Coach has determined that the repair for this defect will be the replacement of the flexible rubber hose with copper tubing. The repair and associated parts will be performed and provided at no cost to the owner.

8. Program for Remedy Campaign:

Country Coach will notify all owners of the affected motor homes and will offer to remedy the motor homes free of charge. Safety recall notices will be mailed to the owners of the affected motor homes and a Dealer Vehicle Safety Defect Service Bulletin will be mailed to all dealers on or before October 15, 2004. All mailings will be by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and First Class Mail.