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November 23, 2004

**VIA FACSIMILE AND
CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL,
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

04V-565
(4 pages)

Mr. George H. Person
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation
400 7th Street, S.W. NSA-11
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Person:

Our firm is general counsel for Four Winds International Corporation ("Four Winds"), P. O. Box 1486, Elkhart, Indiana 46515-1486. Four Winds has been notified by General Motors that certain motorhome chassis built by General Motors and sold to Four Winds do not comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 105, "Hydraulic and Electric Brake System" or Standard No. 135, "Light Vehicle Brake Systems". General Motors has already instituted a safety recall campaign in connection with this matter. The recall number assigned by NHTSA for General Motors' safety recall campaign is 04V-045.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain 2004 model year Dutchmen Express, Four Winds 5000, and Chateau Sport motorhomes manufactured by Four Winds contain the motorhome chassis that have been determined by General Motors to not be in compliance with either FMVSS 105 or FMVSS 135.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The chassis containing the above-referenced non-compliance has been used on certain 2004 model year Dutchmen Express, Four Winds 5000, and Chateau Sport motorhomes manufactured by Four Winds during the period from June 2, 2003 through February 25, 2004. The total number of motorhomes subject to this recall campaign is 63. Based upon the information provided to Four Winds by General Motors, it is estimated that only 20% of these motorhomes

actually contain the non-compliance referred to above. The make, serial numbers, and vehicle identification numbers of the motorhomes subject to this recall campaign are set forth in the attached Exhibit "A."

- B. Description of Non-Compliance. All of the motorhomes that are subject to this recall campaign do not comply with either FMVSS 105 or FMVSS 135 governing brake systems because these motorhomes may have a relief valve bore within the brake hydro-boost module that is not to specification. An out-of-specification bore could result in a fracture of the relief valve O-ring seal within the module. If this happens during braking applications, the driver could experience a slight increase in steering efforts while braking and parking. Under certain driving conditions, a fractured relief valve O-ring seal may also require a slight increase in the applied brake pedal effort to achieve the same vehicle deceleration rate as prior to the seal fracture. If this were to occur, it could result in a vehicle crash without prior warning.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Non-Compliance Exists. Four Winds received notification from General Motors that a potential non-compliance with either FMVSS 105 or FMVSS 135 may exist on the motorhomes manufactured by Four Winds that contain that the affected motorhome chassis provided by General Motors.
- D. Remedying of Non-Compliance. As set forth in the notifications issued by General Motors in connection with recall campaign 04V-045, General Motors' authorized dealers will inspect the hydro-boost module and replace the relief valve if necessary so that the requirements of FMVSS 105 and 135 are satisfied.

In order for General Motors to remedy the non-compliance referred to above, all of the owners of the motorhomes sold by Four Winds must be notified. As of this date, Four Winds has completed its obligation to provide General Motors with the names and addresses of the current owners of the Four Winds motorhomes subject to this recall campaign. General Motors will implement the recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in recall campaign 04V-045.

- E. Owner Notifications. General Motors will provide the notification letters to the owners of the motorhomes that are subject to this recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in recall campaign 04V-045.
- F. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. General Motors will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with recall campaign 04V-045. Because the information included by General Motors in its quarterly reports will encompass the remedying of the Four Winds' motorhomes subject to this recall campaign, Four Winds will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication.

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- G. Campaign Number. Four Winds does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Four Winds will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Four Winds with respect to this recall. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Four Winds in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Daniel A. Bensman

dja

cc: Four Winds International Corporation (via fax)
Mr. John M. Garmhausen

EXHIBIT "A"

Affected Units for United States

Make	Total # Affected	Beg. Serial Number	Ending Serial Number	Beg. VIN Number	Ending VIN Number	Model Years Affected	Date Range
Dutchmen Express	5	ECC030481	ECC031223	1GBJG31U041100106	1GBJG31U941101352	2004	06/26/03 TO 10/21/03
Four Winds 5000	49	FCC030167	FCC032259	1GBJG31U031234175	1GBJG31UX31236354	2004	06/02/03 TO 02/25/04
Chateau Sport	9	SCC030504	SCC031078	1GBJG31U531234141	1GBJG31U941100394	2004	07/11/03 TO 09/30/03
Total United States	63						

