



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

DEC - 2 2005

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Jeff Christner
Compliance Engineer
Newmar Corporation
355 N. Delaware Street
Nappanee, IN 46550

NVS-215kjs

Dear Mr. Christner:

Newmar Corporation (Newmar) is requested, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30165, 30166, and 30119, to renotify owners involved in safety recall 04V-403 who have not had their motorhomes corrected or otherwise accounted for. This recall involves 315 MY 2004 and 2005 Kountry Star and Northern Star Diesel Pusher and 2003 through 2005 Dutch Star Diesel Pusher motorhomes. During manufacturing, the seat belt shoulder harness attachment location for the passenger seat was not properly welded or attached. In the event of a crash, the shoulder harness may become loose or unattached causing serious injury to the passenger seat occupant.

The remedy for this recall is to install a new plate over the existing plate by drilling four attachment holes on each side of new plate and add securing bolts. Owner notification began on October 1, 2004. Through the third quarter of 2005, Newmar's fourth reporting quarter, Newmar reports that of the 315 motorhomes involved, 89 have been remedied, resulting in a completion rate of 28 percent.

Newmar should conduct the owner renotification in accordance with the guidelines listed below.

- Before conducting the owner renotification, Newmar should obtain an updated owner list, for this recall campaign, based on current state motor vehicle registration records.

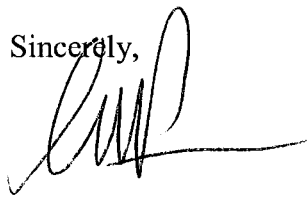
- Newmar's proposed owner renotification letter for this recall must meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577.10, "Follow-up Notification," and must be submitted to NHTSA for review before owner renotification begins. Part 577.10(e)(1) specifically requires that the renotification letter be identified as a "... follow-up to an earlier communication."
- In addition to the six quarterly status reports required under 49 CFR Part 573.6, "Quarterly Reports," Newmar is requested to file three additional quarterly status reports.
- Furnish a proposed schedule for conducting the owner renotification that includes the following information:
 - a. the date on which the search of current state motor vehicle registration records will be initiated in order to update the original owner list;
 - b. the approximate date on which the revised owner list will be available to initiate owner renotification;
 - c. the approximate date on which the owner renotification will begin; and
 - d. the approximate date on which the owner renotification will be completed (if the owner renotification is to be staggered, give the beginning and ending owner renotification date for each segment).

Newmar's renotification schedule and a draft of the proposed owner renotification letter must be submitted to this office by December 29, 2005.

Also, it appears that our file concerning this safety recall is not complete. We request that Newmar submit a copy of the initial owner notification letter and any remedy instructions.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Kelly Schuler of my staff at (202) 366-5227, by fax at (202) 366-7882, or by e-mail at kschuler@nhtsa.dot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Person", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George Person, Chief
Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement