

05U-076
(Copies)

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On February 24, 2005, Keystone RV Company decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety could exist 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: March 3, 2005

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 05-052

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.

Keystone RV Company

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

Garett Carolus; Dealer Parts & Service Manager, Keystone RV Customer Service

Telephone Number: 574-537-3925 Fax No.: 866-273-1451

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report:

Garett Carolus; Dealer Parts & Service Manager, Keystone RV Customer Service

Mark Bullock; VP Engineering, Keystone RV

Signed:



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.

I. 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): Sprinter, Springdale, Tail-Gator **Model Years Involved:** 2005

Model(s): All products built in Oregon in Plant 902

Production Dates: Beginning: June 3, 2004 **Ending:** February 24, 2005

Sprinter VIN Range: Beginning: 4YDT299295K217703 **Ending:** 4YDT259295K221453

Springdale VIN Range: Beginning: 4YDT2682X5K116282 **Ending:** 4YDF245275K121932

Tail-Gator VIN Range: Beginning: 4YDT278285K851235 **Ending:** 4YDT210295K852211

Vehicle Type: Recreational Vehicle **Bodystyle:** Travel Trailer & Fifth Wheel

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

The vehicles that are being recalled were produced in our Oregon production facility in Plant 902 during the production dates listed above. We discovered that a production worker in Plant 902 did not always follow the process to install a gasket between the furnace and the floor duct and secure the furnace to the floor. The other plants that produce these models conform to the process to install the gasket and secure the furnace.

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.

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
Sprinter	2005	471
Springdale	2005	1416
Tail-Gator	2005	281

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 2168

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 15%

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:

The defect was discovered in production during a quality check. It was determined the source of the defect was one production employee that would not install the gasket and/or screw the furnace down if he was running behind. 74 vehicles that were still at the production facility were inspected and 30 were found to have a defect. All the vehicles on this production line since the date this individual was hired are in the recall population.

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.

The units that are in the recall population may have one or both of the following defects. The furnace may not be secured and the gasket that seals the furnace to the floor ducting may be missing.

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

During production, the production employee may have not followed the process to install the screws and/or the gasket.

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

The furnace could move away from the outside wall and disconnect from the exhaust outlet. If this occurs, exhaust gasses will enter the interior of the vehicle when the furnace is operating.

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

The furnace will exhibit poor heating performance due to the warm air not being directed into the heat duct. In addition, the furnace may shut down due to the exhaust gas mixing with the combustion intake air and resulting in an improper fuel mixture.

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

n/a

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

n/a

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.

February 25, 2005 – During a weekly in-house heat duct audit, a furnace was discovered to be not secured properly to the floor. The next vehicle on the production line was inspected and found to have the same condition. The production line was stopped and all vehicles were inspected that were still at the production facility. There were 30 vehicles that exhibited a defect out of 74 total vehicles.

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.

n/a

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.

Vehicles will need to be inspected for the defect and corrected as necessary per directions furnished by Keystone on Service Advisory 05-052. Once the vehicles have been corrected, the furnace will be secured to the floor with a gasket sealing the furnace to the heat duct.

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

The furnace will be secured to the floor with a gasket to seal the furnace to the heat duct.

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.

Production inspected the furnace for the presence of a properly installed gasket and checked to insure the furnace was secured to the floor. The repair procedure provided to the dealers is identical to the one listed on Service Advisory 05-052.

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.

To be determined. _____

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.