

FAULKNER, GARMHAUSEN, KEISTER & SHENK

A LEGAL PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

COURTVIEW CENTER - SUITE 300

100 SOUTH MAIN AVENUE

SIDNEY, OHIO 45365

(937) 492-1271

Fax: (937) 498-1306

www.fgks-law.com

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

HARRY N. FAULKNER
JOHN M. GARMHAUSEN
RALPH F. KEISTER
JAMES R. SHENK*
MICHAEL A. STAUDT
JAMES L. THIEMAN**
THOMAS J. POTTS
DANIEL A. BENSMAN
WILLIAM E. LANG
DAVID B. SHUFFELTON
BRYAN A. NIEMEYER
JOHN M. DEEDS
JOSHUA A. KOLTAK

*ALSO ADMITTED IN FLORIDA
**ALSO ADMITTED IN INDIANA

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

March 11, 2005

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

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 HiSpec Wheel and Tire, Inc. ("HiSpec") that certain steel spare wheels sold to Four Winds have a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety. It is our understanding that HiSpec initiated a safety recall campaign with your office in connection with this matter on March 8, 2005. To our knowledge, NHTSA has not yet assigned a recall number for HiSpec's safety recall campaign.

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 motorhomes manufactured by Four Winds contain the spare wheels that have been determined by HiSpec to have a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The spare wheels containing the defect described below have been used on certain 2005 and 2006 model year Class B and Class C motorhomes manufactured by Four Winds during the period from January 5, 2005 through March 1, 2005. The models subject to this recall campaign are as follows:

05V-090
(5 pages)

RECEIVED
2005 MAR 14 A 9:25
OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

Chateau, Dutchmen, Dutchmen Express, Four Winds 5000, Chateau Sport, Funmover, Four Winds, Chateau Citation, Dutchmen Dorado, and Four Winds Siesta.

The total number of motorhomes subject to this recall campaign is 403. Of these 403 motorhomes, 394 have been sold in the United States and 9 have been sold in Canada. Only 155 of the 403 motorhomes actually contain the defective spare wheels. As a result, only 38.5% of the motorhomes subject to this recall campaign will actually contain the defect described in this report.

The models, quantities affected, serial numbers, vehicle identification numbers, and beginning and ending manufacturing dates of the motorhomes subject to this recall campaign are set forth in the attached Exhibit "A."

- B. Description of Defect. The defective spare wheels subject to this recall campaign were manufactured by Carlisle Tire & Wheel, Inc. ("Carlisle"), which is located at 25 Windham Boulevard, Aiken, South Carolina 29805. These wheels contain an incorrect offset that is 1/8 inch too positive. This incorrect offset occurred because the center of the wheel was welded in the wrong position. As a result of this incorrect offset, the wheel may rub against the brake caliper which could, in turn, result in a brake failure and an accident involving the subject motorhome.

Carlisle has determined that all of the wheels with the incorrect offsets were manufactured on December 6, 2004. As a result, the defective wheels all contain the designation "CT&W 12 6 2004" on the side walls of the wheels.

- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Four Winds determined through its own independent observation that the spare wheels subject to this recall campaign may rub against the brake caliper. Through consultation with HiSpec and Carlisle, a determination was made that the foregoing problem was caused by the incorrect offset, and that the spare wheels at issue contained a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety. As a result, HiSpec filed its defect and non-compliance report with NHTSA on March 8, 2005. HiSpec provided Four Winds with a copy of its defect and non-compliance report so that Four Winds was aware of the scope of its recall campaign and its applicability to motorhomes manufactured by Four Winds.
- D. Remedying of Defect. As set forth in the defect and non-compliance report filed by HiSpec, replacement spare wheels will be sent to Four Winds' dealers. The owners of the motorhomes subject to this recall campaign will be notified of the recall campaign and will be advised to contact their Four Winds dealer to have the spare tire replaced at no charge to the owner.

In order for HiSpec to remedy the defect referred to above, all of the owners of the motorhomes sold by Four Winds that are subject to this recall campaign must be notified. Four Winds has already provided HiSpec with the names and addresses of the current

owners of the motorhomes subject to this recall campaign. HiSpec will implement the recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in its defect and non-compliance report.

- E. Owner Notifications. HiSpec will provide the notification letters to the owners of the motorhomes that are subject to this recall campaign, including the dealer stock units, in accordance with the procedures specified in its defect and non-compliance report.
- F. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. HiSpec will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with its recall campaign. Because the information included by HiSpec in its quarterly reports will encompass the remedying of all Four Winds' motorhomes subject to this recall campaign, Four Winds will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication. However, Four Winds will monitor the quarterly reports filed by HiSpec to insure that the motorhomes subject to this recall campaign are being remedied by HiSpec.
- 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 campaign. 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

Enclosure

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

2005 Class C Breakdown - US

Model	Quantity Affected	Beg. Serial #	Ending Serial #	Beg. VIN #	Ending Vin #	Beg. Mfg. Date	Ending Mfg. Date
Chateau	41	CCC035457	CCC035899	1FDXE45S05HA45557	1FDXE45SX5HA65184	1/6/2005	3/1/2005
Dutchmen	36	DCC035433	DCC035910	1FDXE45S05HA45543	1FDXE45SX5HA65198	1/5/2005	3/1/2005
Dutchmen Express	22	ECC035443	ECC035897	1FDWE35S05HA75289	1FDXE45SX5HA63886	1/5/2005	2/28/2005
Four Winds 5000	36	FCC035460	FCC035920	1FDWE35S25HA75293	1FDXE45SX5HB06932	1/6/2005	3/1/2005
Chateau Sport	33	SCC035437	SCC035848	1FDWE35S05HA75292	1FDXE45SX5HA65217	1/5/2005	2/23/2005
Funmover	17	VCC035465	VCC035896	1FDXE45S05HA63881	1FDXE45SX5HA45551	1/6/2005	2/25/2005
Four Winds	43	XCC035435	XCC035834	1FDXE45S05HA45512	1FDXE45SX5HA45548	1/5/2005	2/22/2005
Total	228						

2005 Class B Breakdown - US

Chateau Citation	9	NCA015207	NCA015444	1FDXE45S25HA57158	1FDXE45S95HA39398	1/6/2005	2/28/2005
Dutchmen Dorado	13	RCA015235	RCA015451	1FDWE35L94HB23072	1FDXE45SX5HA39393	1/12/2005	2/24/2005
Four Winds Siesta	12	TCA015199	TCA015458	1FDWE35L64HB23076	1FDXE45SX5HA63967	1/5/2005	2/25/2005
Totals	34						

2006 Class C Breakdown - US

Chateau	4	CCC035462	CCC035769	1FDXE45S55HA65190	1FDXE45S75HA45586	1/7/2005	2/15/2005
Four Winds 5000	3	FCC035854	FCC035878	1FDXE45S65HA65151	1FDXE45S75HA63876	2/24/2005	2/25/2005
Majestic	89	MCC035553	MCC035932	1FDWE35L05HA94787	1FDXE45SX5HA95124	1/18/2005	3/1/2005
Chateau Sport	3	SCC035463	SCC035776	1FDXE45S75HA57155	1FDXE45S85HA65149	1/6/2005	2/15/2005
Funmover	27	VCC035504	VCC035928	1FDXE45S05HA95018	1FDXE45SX5HA95172	1/11/2005	3/1/2005
Four Winds	3	XCC035445	XCC035882	1FDXE45S65HA65201	1FDXE45SX5HA50944	1/5/2005	2/25/2005
Totals	129						

2006 Class B Breakdown - US

Four Winds Siesta	3	TCA015221	TCA015428	1FDXE45S55HA45523	1FDXE45S85HA65166	1/10/2005	2/21/2005
Totals	3						

Total Affected 394 US

EXHIBIT "A"

2005 Class C Breakdown - CANADIAN

Model	Quantity Affected	Beg. Serial #	Ending Serial #	Beg. VIN #	Ending Vin #	Beg. Mfg. Date	Ending Mfg. Date
Chateau	2	CCC035546	CCC035548	1FDXE45S75HA50951	1FDXE45S75HA57169	1/19/2005	1/19/2005
Funmover	2	VCC035684	VCC035895	1FDXE45S85HA65197	1FDXE45SX5HA63922	2/2/2005	2/25/2005
Total	4						

2005 Class B Breakdown - CANADIAN

Chateau Citation	2	NCA015420	NCA015465	1FDWE35S15HA87435	1FDXE45S05HA65193	2/18/2005	2/18/2005
Dutchmen Dorado	2	RCA015359	RCA015441	1FDXE45S65HA63948	1FDXE45S85HA65216	2/23/2005	2/27/2005
Four Winds Siesta	1	TCA015255		1FDXE45S85HA45516		1/17/2005	1/17/2005
Totals	5						

Total Affected 9 Canadian