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Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc.
Recreational Vehicle Group
Engineering & Product Compliance
2970 Myers St. / P.O. Box 7638
Riverside, CA 92513-7638

April 18, 2005

05V-166
(9 pages)

Mr. Kenneth Weinstein
Administration for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Safety Defect Report

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Fleetwood Enterprises Inc., has decided that a safety defect exists in motor homes as listed below, and is furnishing this notification in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance reports.

The following is the information required by 49 CFR Part 573:

- This report was prepared on April 18, 2005
- Fleetwood has assigned 50415 as an identification code to this recall.

(1) The affected motor homes were manufactured by the following wholly owned subsidiaries of Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc.

Fleetwood Motor Homes of Indiana, Inc.
1031 U.S. 224 E.
P.O. Box 31
Decatur, Indiana 46733

The agency should contact the following individual with respect to this recall:

Robert E. Wozniak
Director of Engineering and Compliance
Recreational Vehicle Group
3125 Myers St.
Riverside, California 92513-7638
Telephone: (951) 351-3814
Fax: (951) 353-7032

(2) The vehicles involved in this recall are 2004 and 2005 model year American Eagle and American Tradition brand class A motor homes manufactured between July 20, 2003 and February 7, 2005. The July 20, 2003 date coincides with the first application of this chassis model. The February 7, 2005 date coincides with a forward repositioning of the power steering

hydraulic filter in production. The motor homes were built with a Fleetwood identification number range of 719J44486723 through 719W54493115 and 780J44487015 through 780X54493434.

- (3) Fleetwood reports 543 as an approximate number of motor homes containing the safety defect.
- (4) Fleetwood estimates that 25% of the above motor homes contain the safety defect.
- (5) On motor homes affected by this recall a pneumatic line can become pinched between the hydraulic filter and a compartment door strut. The chaffing caused by opening and closing the compartment door can cause the filter to rupture and result in a hydraulic fluid leak. This loss of hydraulic fluid causes the power steering feature to not function. This can result in loss of vehicle control, personnel injury and/or a vehicle crash.
- (6) Not Applicable.
- (7) Fleetwood began an investigation in March, 2005 when this situation was questioned by the NHTSA as a query regarding a Product Upgrade being conducted on this situation. when this situation was identified by

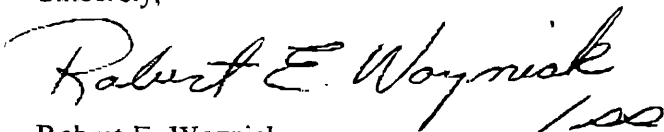
Fleetwood is not aware of any injuries that have resulted from this safety defect.
Fleetwood is not aware on any accidents that have resulted from this safety defect.

- (8) Fleetwood will inspect, replace or repair damaged lines as necessary and relocate the affected hydraulic lines. Fleetwood will perform this modification at no charge to the customer.
- (9) Fleetwood intends to conduct a dealer notification mailing on May 2, 2005.
Fleetwood intends to conduct a customer notification mailing on May 9, 2005.
- (10) Fleetwood does not foresee any problems with implementing this voluntary recall campaign.
- (11) Copies of subsequent correspondence will be submitted to NHTSA within five (5) working days of distribution. This correspondence will include:
 - I) Letter of dealer notification
 - II) Letter of customer notification
 - III) Service Bulletin

Drafts of the service bulletin and letters to dealers and owners will be forthcoming for your review.

If additional information is required, please contact myself.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Wozniak
Director of Engineering and Compliance
Recreational Vehicle Group



Driven to Explore

Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc.
3030 Myers Street / Riverside, CA 92503 5527
P.O. Box 7638 / Riverside, CA 92513-7638
p: 800.322.8216 / www.fleetwoodrv.com

IMPORTANT PRODUCT RECALL INFORMATION # 50415

May, 2005

Dear Valued Fleetwood Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Highway Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc., on behalf of its subsidiary manufacturing center located in Decatur, Indiana has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2004 and 2005 American Eagle and American Tradition motor homes.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

On motor homes affected by this recall a pneumatic line can become pinched between the hydraulic filter and a compartment door strut. Chaffing caused by opening and closing the compartment door can cause the filter to rupture and result in a hydraulic fluid leak. This loss of hydraulic fluid causes the power steering feature to not function. This can result in loss of vehicle control, personal injury and/or a vehicle crash.

WHAT WILL FLEETWOOD DO?

Effective immediately, Spartan Chassis Service Facilities will be supplied with all the information needed to enable them to perform the recall remedy.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Please contact your Spartan Chassis Service Facility and make an appointment to have this recall remedy performed. The total length of time your vehicle will be out of service will depend on your Spartan Chassis Service Facility's work schedule.

If you have had this concern corrected previously, you may be eligible for reimbursement of your cost for that repair. For more information regarding this recall # 50415, contact Fleetwood American Coach Owner Relations at 800-435-7345.

When you deliver your motor home for repairs, your dealer will complete a Fleetwood Repair Order. Upon completion of the repair, please sign the **Fleetwood Repair Order** and fill out the enclosed, self-addressed **Vehicle Information Update Card** and return it to Fleetwood.

If you have changed your address or sold the motor home, please take a moment to provide the name and address of the person or dealership you sold it to on the enclosed **Vehicle Information Update Card** and return it to Fleetwood. That way we can update our records, and if necessary, notify the new owner using the information you provide.

For leased vehicles: Federal regulation requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If you are unable to obtain the specified repair promptly and without charge, please contact:

**Fleetwood American Coach
Owner Relations - Recall # 50415
1420 Patterson Street
Decatur, IN 46733
800-435-7345**

If you believe that the dealer and Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc. have failed or have been unable to remedy the defect without charge or within a reasonable period of time, you may submit a complaint to:

**Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590**

Or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236

Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc., is taking these steps in the interest of your safety. We regret any inconvenience this may cause you.

Sincerely,

FLEETWOOD ENTERPRISES, INC.

Tina Inkrote
Service Coordinator
Recreational Vehicle Division



Driven to Explore

Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc.
3030 Myers Street / Riverside, CA 92503-5577
P.O. Box 7638 / Riverside, CA 92513-7638
t: 800.322.8216 / www.fleetwoodrv.com

IMPORTANT PRODUCT RECALL INFORMATION # 50415

May, 2005

**TO: ALL FLEETWOOD DEALER PRINCIPALS,
SERVICE MANAGERS,
AND PARTS MANAGERS**

**SUBJECT: RECALL CAMPAIGN # 50415
Spartan Chassis Pneumatic System Steel Braided Line**

Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc., on behalf of its subsidiary manufacturing center located in Decatur, Indiana is requesting your assistance in conducting a voluntary recall notification campaign in accordance with the National Highway Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety act.

Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc., has decided that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2004 and 2005 model year American Eagle and American Tradition brand class A motor homes. These motor homes were manufactured at our Decatur, Indiana manufacturing plant from July 20, 2003 through February 7, 2005.

We are notifying the owners of the affected units in order to correct the problem. A copy of the letter sent to owners is enclosed for your information.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

On motor homes affected by this recall a pneumatic line can become pinched between the hydraulic filter and a compartment door strut. Chaffing caused by opening and closing the compartment door can cause the filter to rupture and result in a hydraulic fluid leak. This loss of hydraulic fluid causes the power steering feature to not function. This can result in loss of vehicle control, personal injury and/or a vehicle crash.

To correct this safety defect, owners of the above mentioned motor homes have been asked to contact their local Spartan Chassis Service Facility and make an appointment to have this recall remedy performed.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Please check your motor home inventory and have the repair procedure performed by your local Spartan Chassis Service Facility on affected units as outlined on the attached service bulletin # 50415. It is imperative that this procedure be completed prior to the sale of the affected units so your customers will not be inconvenienced.

If you have one of these vehicles in your inventory, you will be mailed a Safety Recall Notice for that specific motor home. Fleetwood is asking our dealers to contact their local Spartan Chassis Service Facility to have the recall remedy performed prior to sale or lease.

Federal Law (Section 154 of the National Highway Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966) requires that:

If you have received a notice of recall or failure to comply from Fleetwood or any component manufacturer, you must repair or otherwise correct the defects on vehicles remaining in your inventory, according to the notification, before selling or leasing the vehicles. Any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of the notice to the lessee within ten days.

Thank you for helping Fleetwood with its continuing efforts to maintain customer satisfaction. If you have any questions, please contact your regional Fleetwood Service Center.

Sincerely,

FLEETWOOD ENTERPRISES, INC.

Tina Inkrote
Service Coordinator
Recreational Vehicle Division



Tech Tips

Customer Care

Tech Tip No: MH110504A

Date: December 5, 2004

REV: A

Subject: Relocation of Hydraulic Filter

Applies To: Fleetwood **VDM Range:** 5-27-03 thru 8-4-04 **Specific Models:** MM, K2

For Internal use only: No

Vocation: Motor Home

Reason Classification: A2

Labor Time: 1.0 Hours

Purpose: Replacement of the Spartan Chassis hydraulic filter mounting bracket and associated replacement of air governor fittings for correction of the Fleetwood service center door strut interference with the filter and gauge.

Please Read the Entire Tech Tip Before Proceeding With Any Work.

Scope:

The scope of these instructions shall apply only to the specific replacement, revision or modifications indicated within these instructions for the Spartan Chassis hydraulic filter mounting bracket and related air governor fittings and connections.

Responsibility:

It is the sole responsibility of the person(s) performing the related repairs, revisions or modifications to ensure full comprehension of these instructions and for the proper inspection and analysis of all of the repairs, revision or modifications which are performed in order to prevent accidental damages due to improperly performed repairs, revisions or modifications.

Part and Service Information:

- 1 each - Hydraulic Center Bracket Support Part # = 1541-FF1-001
- 1 each - Air Governor Brass Fitting 45D elbow Part # = 0716-MM5-C01

Safety:

Observe all industry safety standards and secure the vehicle before beginning any work on the hydraulic filter assembly system.

Procedure:

Tech Tip Bulletins are intended for use by professional technicians only. They are written to guide professional technicians in performing service to vehicles of product specific nature in conjunction with industry standards. Professional technicians are appropriately trained on industry standards and have the tools and equipment to perform procedures safely and properly.



Tech Tips

Customer Care

- 1.0 Remove the two bolts fastening the hydraulic filter assembly to the support bracket.
- 2.0 Discard the old bracket.
- 3.0 Remove the two bracket retaining bolts which fasten the hydraulic filter assembly bracket support to the convenience center, paying close attention to the support bracket orientation for installation of the new support bracket.
- 4.0 Re-attach the hydraulic filter assembly to the new support bracket (p/n 1541-FF1-001) loosely utilizing the original nuts and bolts.
- 5.0 Referring to drawing # 1500-017 titled "SUB ASM-AIR GOVERNOR" remove the hose connection and the brass fitting from (port) # 4 (refer to drawing to determine port # 4).
- 6.0 Take the new brass 45 degree fitting (p/n 0716-MM5-C01) and apply 81801 pipe sealer with Teflon as required to **ONLY THE PIPE THREADS**.
- 7.0 Referring to drawing PAD1500-017 for the proper orientation of the fitting, install the new 45 degree brass elbow fitting into port # 4 on the air governor and reattach and tighten the hose compression connection.
 - 7.1 **NOTE:** Discard the old hose connection insert and utilize the new one provided with the fitting.
- 8.0 Attach and tighten the new support bracket (p/n 1541-FF1-001) to the convenience center with the two original bolts.
- 9.0 Slide the hydraulic filter center assembly inboard by 1.0" inch and then tighten the nuts and bolts.
- 10.0 Inspect the completed assembly to ensure there are not any interference points with the door strut, hoses or structures. If interference is found, loosen the hydraulic filter assembly at the bracket and adjust on the slotted bracket until the proper clearances are obtained.
- 11.0 Inspect the hydraulic center for leaks and repair as required to correct any problems.

Tech Tip Bulletins are intended for use by professional technicians only. They are written to guide professional technicians in performing repairs to the air governor for any leaks and for the proper hose clearance. Adjust and repair industry standards and have the tools and equipment to perform procedures safely and properly.



Tech Tips

Customer Care

as required to correct any problems.

Filter Element Inspection:

Visually inspect the hydraulic oil filter element for damages from rubbing against the door strut. Replace the filter element if damaged.

NOTE: This step is not covered in the labor rate for this Tech Tip repair procedure.

Related Documents:

- Drawing PAD1500-017 Sub asm-air governor



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Revision A / 010505 added part qty

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