

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report⁽¹⁾

05V-514
(6 pages)

On October 21, 2005, Foretravel, Inc. [MFR] decided that a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 571:S104 exists 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: November 8, 2005

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

N/A

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.

Foretravel, Inc.
1221 NW Stallings Drive
Nacogdoches, TX 75964

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

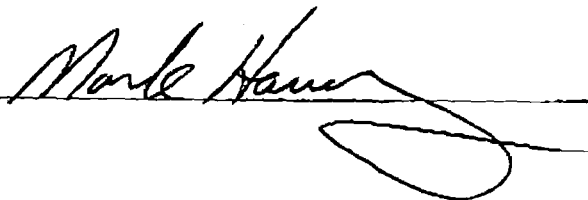
Mark Harvey
Director of Warranty and Customer Assistance
Foretravel, Inc.

Telephone Number: (936) 564-8367 Fax No.: (936) 564-0391

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Mark Harvey
Director of Warranty and Customer Assistance
Foretravel, Inc.

Signed: _____



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): Foretravel **Model Years Involved:** 2003 (1only)/2005/2006 **Model(s):**
U295T/U320T/NMBT/PHXT

Production Dates: Beginning: 06/07/2004 **Ending:** 10/10/2005

VIN Range: Beginning: 1F98D54035N054727 (Except: 1F98D542X3N054528) **Ending:**
1F98D542X6N054775

Vehicle Type: Class "A" Motorhome **Bodystyle:** Unicoach/Phenix/Nimbus

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

The tag axles are distinguishable. These are supplied to Foretravel, Inc. by an identifiable Vendor-Supplier. Further information will be supplied to NHTSA as it becomes available.

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?

An exact percentage of the 44 manufactured vehicles that may contain the actual potential defect cannot be determined at this time, but will be more specific and will provide that information to NHTSA as it becomes available.

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

Model: U295T/U320T/NMBT/PHXT

Year: 2005 (1-2003)

Number of Potentially Affected Vehicles: 44

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

Unknown at this time.

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:

Foretravel, Inc. was notified of a potential of missing spindle plugs on some tag axles by vendor/supplier. Also during the week of October 17th 2005 missing plugs were noticed while performing routine service on a customer vehicle. While searching for particular coaches that have this axle it was noticed that some tag axle assemblies have the vendor serial # data tag and some do not. This particular tag axle began usage in (one) 2003 year model the remainder were used on 2005 and 2006 year models. Some of these coaches are still in production. Not all 2005 year models with a tag axle have this particular brand of tag axle. All 2006 year models with tag axles do have this particular brand manufactured by the same Vendor-Supplier.

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.

All units involved have a tag axle assembly. The tag axle assembly is located just to the rear of the main drive axle on each coach. The tag axle should have a spindle plug that is missing on some of the axles that allows debris from inside the axle tube to migrate into the bearing oil cup. Also, some of these axles do not have the Vendor/Supplier serial # data tag attached to the tag axle assembly.

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

Assembly procedures of the Vendor-Supplier(s) not adhered to.

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

The bearings and related surfaces can be contaminated with debris the manufacturing process.

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

Debris will not be noticed until oil in bearing housing is serviced.

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

Dana Corporation, 6938 Elm Valley Drive, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009

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

Mike Koralewski, Director of Quality

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.

There have been no reports of accidents, Injuries, Fires, Crashes, or Fatalities with regard to this.

There have been no paid warranty claims to date.

10/13/2005-Foretravel production was notified by e-mail of spindle plugs missing on Dana Axles by Ridewell (John Satina) Investigations began immediately.

10/20/2005- Foretravel Technical Services received call and pictures of debris in tag axle bearing cup by service facility in California.

10/21/2005-Representatives of Foretravel decided that all coaches involved need to be checked for issue. Also was noticed that some of the involved axles did have the Dana serial# data tag.

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.

Determined as above.

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.

Foretravel Inc. and Dana Corporation is preparing instructions on repair procedures. These instructions will include inspection for data tag and installation of spindle plug, installation of missing data tag, bearing cleaning, bearing inspection and if needed replacement, oil refill.

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

Recalled component may not have spindle plug. Remedy will visibly show the presence

of the spindle plug and serial # data tag.

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.

The production remedy is identical to recall remedy.

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.

- 1) Foretravel Inc. will began sending customer notification letters to owners as quickly as possible in attempting to develop specific field repair instructions.
- 2) The dealer /distributor /retailer network will be notified of the remedy with instructions as soon as they are completed by fax, and mail, accompanied with a sample copy of the customer notification letter. Dealers/retailers not linked with Foretravel Inc. directly will be notified by fax of potentially affected recall vehicles in their stock inventory.
- 3) Needed parts and any necessary instructions will be obtained from the Vendor/Supplier.
- 4) V.I.N. numbers of affected vehicles and owner's names and addresses will be obtained when remedy instructions are completed.

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.

1. 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.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579, As Amended: This information is requested pursuant to the authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response maybe used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.