



The Motorhome that...
Drives like an SUV!™ (6)

RECEIVED
215

2005 NOV -9 A 10: 37

DEPARTMENT OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

DSU-533
(2 pages)

Thursday, October 27, 2005

VIA FACSIMILE (2 pages) AND COURIER

Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Re: **Defect Information Report**

On October 27, 2005 Home & Park Motorhomes concluded that a defect which relates to the BBQ propane line used on Roadtrek class "B" motorhomes built on Chevrolet chassis exists in some of the motor vehicles built in the last 7 months and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

1. Manufacturer: Home & Park Motorhomes
Hanmar Motor Corporation
100 Shirley Ave.
Kitchener, ON N2B 2E1

Designated Agent: Joe Cecconi Sr.
Joe Cecconi's Chrysler Complex
2380 Military Road
Niagara Falls, NY, 13404

Manufacturer's Contact Person: Alex Nastasescu P.Eng.
Engineering Mgr.
Phone: 519-745-0711/120
Fax: 519-745-1170

2. Vehicles affected by this defect are 2005/2006 MY class "B" motorhomes Roadtrek 170, 190 and 210 models, built on Chevrolet 2500/3500 van chassis. (A complete list of VINs for units which may be affected is available).
3. A total of 381 vehicles may contain the defect. All of them are equipped with BBQ connections.
2005 - 364 units
2006 - 17 units

On the road since 1974



100 Shirley Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2B 2E1
1-888-ROADTREK (888-762-3873) or 519-745-1169
Fax: 519-745-1160 • info@roadtrek.com • www.roadtrek.com

4. It is estimated that about 3-4% of the total population can have some degree of failure. The recall will cover 100% of the units built by Home & Park Motorhomes on Chevrolet vans, from March 2005 (when the operation of assembling the BBQ hose to the van was changed from one work station to another work station), to October 2005 when the assembly process has been corrected. The assembly process is done by Home & Park Motorhomes at its facility in Kitchener, ON.
5. All Roadtrek B class motorhomes are equipped with a propane BBQ connection. A rubber hose is connected to the propane regulator at one end and has a brass shutoff valve/connector at the other end (free end). To use propane for a BBQ the shutoff valve/connector is removed from its supporting clamp and it is attached to the BBQ. The hose has one more supporting/restrain clamp about 12" from the connector end. This clamp is meant to restrain the connector end from touching the ground if the shutoff valve/connector is not properly inserted into its supporting clamp after use. The operation of assembling the BBQ hose was changed from one work station to another work station as part of manufacturing line ballancing. During the transfer process, ineffective communication and training lead to the omission of a restrain clam that was supporting and restraining the BBQ hose. The clamp used for holding the brass BBQ shutoff valve/connector itself was still used on all units.
In the event that a person uses the BBQ connection and after use the brass shutoff valve/connector is not inserted properly into its holding clamp, the connector can fall to the ground (since the restrain clamp is missing) and can bounce up and down as the vehicle is driven down the road. In extreme situations dragging on the pavement could wear a hole through the hose and propane can leak out creating the potential for a fire.
In terms of advanced warning of potential failure, the bouncing shutoff valve/connector can "bang" and dent the rear doors and/or bumper and alert the driver/passengers.
6. The determination of the defect is based on one customer's report. The defect was noticed by the owner of one motorhome that had dents in the rear doors produced by the "bouncing" brass BBQ connector.
We are not aware of reports of accidents or injuries related to the defect at this time.
7. All BBQ hose/connector assembly will be checked for wear and replaced as required. On all units the restrain clamp will be added to limit the length of the "free" end of the hose.
8. The owners/dealers of the affected vehicles will be notified by mail and phone in the next 7 to 10 days. A draft copy of the notification documents will be faxed to you as soon as they are available.

Yours truly,

HOME & PARK MOTORHOMES



Alex Nastasescu P.Eng.,
Engineering Manager

cc: Jeff Hanemaayer, President & CEO
Jim Hammill, General Manager
Doug Porter, Quality Manager
Paul Cassidy, Sales Director
Ben Spengen, Production Manager
George Clements, Warranty/Service Manager
Joe Cecconi Sr., Designated Agent