



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

April 14, 2006

GARY DUNCAN
V.P. ENGINEERING
COACHMEN RV COMPANY, LLC
423 NORTH MAIN STREET
MIDDLEBURY IN 46540

NVS-215
06V-118

Subject: BATTERY CABLES

Dear MR. DUNCAN:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

COACHMEN/SPORTSCOACH ELITE/2007
COACHMEN/SPORTSCOACH LEGEND/2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 06V-118

Mfg's Report Date: April 10, 2006

Components: ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:BATTERY:CABLES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 29

Summary:

ON CERTAIN MOTOR HOMES, THE BATTERY CABLES THAT EXIT THE REAR OF THE BATTERY STORAGE COMPARTMENT ARE NOT ADEQUATELY SECURED. SHOULD THE CABLES BECOME UNSECURED, THEY COULD COME IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE ENGINE EXHAUST SYSTEM.

Consequence:

IN THE EVENT THAT THE CABLES COME IN CONTACT WITH THE EXHAUST SYSTEM, THE CABLE PROTECTIVE COVERING COULD EVENTUALLY MELT CAUSING A DIRECT SHORT IN THE 12-VOLT ELECTRICAL SYSTEM, WHICH COULD RESULT IN A FIRE.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL SHORTEN THE LENGTH OF THE BATTERY CABLE SO THAT IT CANNOT CONTACT THE EXHAUST. AS AN ADDED PRECAUTION, A HEAT SHIELD WILL BE INSTALLED DIRECTLY ABOVE THE EXHAUST IN THIS AREA. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2006. OWNERS MAY CONTACT COACHMEN AT 1-800-453-6064.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter. Please make the following changes:

In the second paragraph, use the word 'decided' rather than 'determined' per the regulations.

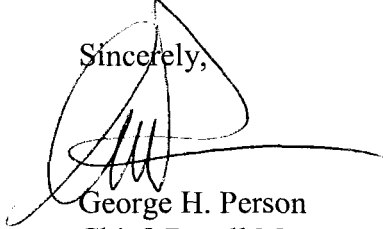
Please revise your owner letter to include the following updated NHTSA hotline information: "...the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or *call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.*"

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during April 2006. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before July 30, 2006.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov or delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Person", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement