

Monday, March 06, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE AND COURIER

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

2006 MAR -9 A 10:31
DEPT'S INVESTIGATION

06V-070
(4 Pages)

Re: **Defect Information Report**

On March 03, 2006 Home & Park Motorhomes concluded that a defect which relates to the incomplete torque of fasteners used on the rear axle lift kit on Roadtrek class "B" motorhomes exists in some motor vehicles built in the last 4 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: 519-745-1169/120
Fax: 519-745-1170

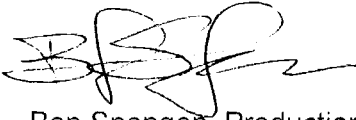
2. Vehicles affected by this defect are 2006 class "B" motorhomes Roadtrek 210 models, built on Chevrolet 3500 van chassis. (A complete list of VINs for units which may be affected is available).
3. A total of 51 vehicles may contain the defect. All of them are equipped with the rear axle lift kits.
4. It is estimated that about 50% of the total population can have the unconfirmed torque situation. The recall will cover 100% of the units built by Home & Park Motorhomes using the rear axle lift kits on 2006 Chevrolet vans, from November 2005, to February 2006 when the torque process was validated.

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5. As part of the Roadtrek 210 motorhome build process, the motorhome body is "lifted" at the rear end about 1.5" above the rear axle. To achieve the raised position, a 1.5" metal spacer block is located between the leaf springs and the rear axle and new longer U bolts are used to secure the assembly in place. Home & Park's manufacturing process sheets specifies the torque for the U bolt nuts (103 ftlbs) and the tool for the job (calibrated torque wrench). On some units the "U" bolt nuts have been tightened using an air impact wrench only and no "controlled" torque was applied to the nuts. In terms of advanced warning of potential failure a "loose" rear axle can create a "sluggish" driving feel, rear "bouncing" and loud "bang" noise in extreme situations.
6. The determination of the defect is based on a random inspection of a completed Roadtrek van motorhome. We are not aware of reports of accidents or injuries related to the defect at this time.
7. All vehicles will have the nuts securing the U-bolts torqued to 103 ftlbs.
8. The owners/dealers of the affected vehicles will be notified by mail and phone in the next few days. A draft copy of the notification documents is attached for your review.

Yours truly,

HOME & PARK MOTORHOMES



Ben Spengen, Production Manager

cc: Jeff Hanemaayer, President & CEO
Jim Hammill, General Manager
Paul Cassidy, Sales Manager
Doug Porter, Quality Manager
Alex Nastasescu, Engineering Manager
Joe Cecconi Sr., Designated Agent

March 2006

DRAFT

To: **SERVICE DEPARTMENT**
All US Home & Park Motorhomes dealers

From: **Ben Spengen, Production Manager**

RE: **Notice of Recall 2006-01 Rear axle lift kit (210 model)**

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

Home & Park Motorhomes has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the rear axle lift kit installed in Roadtrek 210 class 'B' Motorhomes manufactured on Chevrolet 3500 chassis between November 2005 and February 2006.

The defect relates to the motorhome body being "lifted" at the rear by adding 1.5" spacer blocks between the leaf spring and the rear axle. New longer U-bolts are used to secure the assembly in place. The "U" bolt nuts have been tightened using an air impact wrench only and no "controlled" torque was applied to the nuts. In terms of advanced warning of potential failure a "loose" rear axle can create a "sluggish" driving feel, rear "bouncing" and loud "bang" noise in extreme situations.

Corrective action requires application of the specified torque of 103 ftlbs to the U-bolt nuts. The repairs will take less than one half hour. For more information contact our Service and Warranty department toll free at 888-ROADTREK (762-3873).

If this notification is inadequate or the corrections are not made in accordance with this notification within 60 days, you may advise the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington DC 20590 or call the toll free Auto Safety Hotline 888-327-7236.

For affected vehicles that are in your inventory or have been sold by your dealership for which we have not received registration, notices are enclosed for your action. You are requested to carry out the corrective action and complete the recall form prior to delivery.

We regret any inconvenience these actions may cause.

cc: All factory sales staff
cc: All regional sales managers

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March 2006

DRAFT

To: **ALL AFFECTED US ROADTREK OWNERS**

From: **Ben Spengen, Production Manager**

RE: **Notice of Recall, 2006-01 Rear axle lift kit (210 model)**

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

Home & Park Motorhomes has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the rear axle lift kit installed in Roadtrek 210 class 'B' Motorhomes manufactured on Chevrolet 3500 chassis between November 2005 and February 2006.

The defect relates to the motorhome body being "lifted" at the rear by adding 1.5" spacer blocks between the leaf spring and the rear axle. New longer U-bolts are used to secure the assembly in place. The "U" bolt nuts have been tightened using an air impact wrench only and no "controlled" torque was applied to the nuts. In terms of advanced warning of potential failure a "loose" rear axle can create a "sluggish" driving feel, rear "bouncing" and loud "bang" noise in extreme situations.

Corrective action requires application of the specified torque of 103 ftlbs to the U-bolt nuts. The repairs will take less than one half hour. Please contact your Roadtrek dealer or Chevrolet dealer to have the repairs completed. The repairs will take about one half hour and will be completed at no charge to you. For more information contact our Service and Warranty department toll free at 888-ROADTREK (762-3873).

If this notification is inadequate or the corrections are not made in accordance with this notification within 60 days, you may advise the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington DC 20590 or call the toll free Auto Safety Hotline 888-327-7236.

We regret any inconvenience these actions may cause. It is imperative to have the above corrective action completed for your safety and continued satisfaction with your Roadtrek.

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