



06V-178
(2 pages)

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Kenneth N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

May 19, 2006

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. submits the following information concerning a safety defect on 1998 & 1999 Model Year Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. motor homes built on Spartan Chassis built with 0469-KK1 Support Bracket with a 0945-KK1 7.5" Pitman Arm or 0886-KK1 support bracket with a 0945-KK1 7.5" Pitman Arm.

573.6 (c) (2) – Potentially Affected Vehicles

The following model year 1998 & 1999 Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. motor homes built from 3/16/98 through 9/9/98 are potentially affected;

Model Families: Scenic Cruiser, Tourmaster and Friendship.
Model Numbers: 8381, 8393, 8400, 8403, 8404, and 8405.

573.6 (c) (3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

Thirty-nine (39) motor home chassis were identified by Spartan as being sold to Gulf Stream Coach, Inc and included in recall 06V-156.

573.6 (c) (4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Condition

At this point Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. estimates that 100% of the potentially affected vehicles were shipped with the defective pitman arm installed prior to Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. receiving notification from Spartan of the defect.

573.6 (c) (5) – Description of the Noncompliance

The non-compliance exists in Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. motor homes built on Spartan Chassis (Spartan) manufactured with the following combination of part numbers: 0469-KK1 Support bracket with a 0945-KK1 7.5" Pitman Arm and 0886-KK1 support bracket with a 0945-KK1 7.5" Pitman Arm. The steering gear support bracket has the potential to fail when subject to the repetitive forces of static steering conditions. The cause of failure is attributed to fatigue. The steering system ceases to function and there is no warning.

573.6 (c) (7) – Basis for Non-Compliance

Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. was informed of the non-compliance as a result of the NHTSA assigned recall number 06V-156 for Spartan Chassis (Spartan).

573.6 (c) (8) – Service Program

On 5/19/06 Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. supplied Spartan with an updated owner and dealer contact information for all of the possibly affected vehicles that were shipped from our production facility prior to having the recall work performed on them.

573.6 (c) (9) – Owner and Dealer Letters

Spartan is sending the letters and conducting the recall.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Satoski
Compliance Engineer
Gulf Stream Coach, Inc.
(574)289-8787 x3312