

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**<sup>1</sup>

06V-192  
(6 pages)

On May 22, 2006 Keystone RV Company decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety 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: May 22, 2006

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 06-068

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.

Keystone RV Company

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

Rick Deisler, Customer Service Manager

Telephone Number: 574/537-3996 Fax No.: 574/537-3981

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report:

Garett Carolus, Key Express Division

Signed:

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<sup>1</sup>Each 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.

**I. 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):** Hideout **Model Years Involved:** 2002 - 2006 **Model(s):** All

**Production Dates: Beginning:** 10/29/2001 **Ending:** 2/1/2006

**VIN Range: Beginning:** 4YDT29F2827303779 **Ending:** 4YDT27F2X6E321822

**Vehicle Type:** Recreational Vehicle **Bodystyle:** Travel Trailer

**Make(s):** Tail-Gator **Model Years Involved:** 2000 - 2006 **Model(s):** All

**Production Dates: Beginning:** 3/28/2000 **Ending:** 6/24/2005

**VIN Range: Beginning:** 4YDF3292XY1016680 **Ending:** 4YDT230226K853987

**Vehicle Type:** Recreational Vehicle **Bodystyle:** Travel Trailer & Fifth Wheel

**Make(s):** NRG **Model Years Involved:** 2006 **Model(s):** All

**Production Dates: Beginning:** 8/5/2005 **Ending:** 4/28/2006

**VIN Range: Beginning:** 4YDT230256R853988 **Ending:** 4YDT230286R857341

**Vehicle Type:** Recreational Vehicle **Bodystyle:** Travel Trailer

**Make(s):** Raptor **Model Years Involved:** 2004 - 2006 **Model(s):** All

**Production Dates: Beginning:** 9/16/2003 **Ending:** 4/20/2006

**VIN Range: Beginning:** 4YDF361204J850101 **Ending:** 4YDF361356M857202

**Vehicle Type:** Recreational Vehicle **Bodystyle:** Travel Trailer & Fifth Wheel

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

All vehicles in the recall population were manufactured with a gasoline generator or generator ready option.

**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. 4%

**II. Identify the Recall Population**

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

<b>Mode</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</b>
Hideout	2002	100
Hideout	2003	247
Hideout	2004	144
Hideout	2005	236
Hideout	2006	147
Tail-Gator	2000	6
Tail-Gator	2001	302
Tail-Gator	2002	562
Tail-Gator	2003	618
Tail-Gator	2004	898
Tail-Gator	2005	332
Tail-Gator	2006	58
NRG	2006	867
Raptor	2004	151
Raptor	2005	1979
Raptor	2006	2839

**Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:** 9486

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100%

**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:**

All vehicles manufactured by Keystone RV up to the manufactured dates indicated with a generator or generator ready as an option are included in the recall population.

### **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.**

Exhaust emissions from the use of gasoline generators contain Carbon Monoxide (“CO”). The recreational vehicles in the recall population were manufactured either with a gasoline generator or with a generator ready option. Currently the recreational vehicles in the recall population come equipped with a 9 volt battery operated CO detector as approved by the Recreational Vehicle Industry Association (“RVIA”). Although approved by RVIA, the problem Keystone has recently recognized is that if the battery in the detector goes dead or is removed, the detector will not function and therefore can not warn the occupants of the recreational vehicle if CO reaches a harmful level.

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

A 9 volt battery operated CO detector was installed in all Keystone products which have generators or are generator ready in accordance with RVIA guidelines. However, Keystone recognizes that the battery can be removed or go dead which can result in no operational warning device present to alert the occupants of the recreational vehicle of exposure to CO.

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

If the 9 volt battery in the detector goes dead and the CO reaches a harmful level, serious illness or death could result to the occupants of the recreational vehicle.

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

If a battery operated CO detector is in working order, it will sound an alarm when the CO reaches a harmful level. If the detector is not operational, no alarm will sound and the only possible warning may be that the occupants of the recreational vehicle will smell exhaust fumes if exhaust is entering the recreational vehicle.

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

N/A

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

N/A

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#### **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 was not an incident, accident, injury, illness or fatality which has lead Keystone to conduct this voluntary recall. There were, however, several customer complaints of battery powered CO detectors sounding and several customer complaints of minor side effects from alleged exposure to CO. Based upon these reports, Keystone researched the issue of CO infiltration and the effects of exposure to CO. Further, Keystone also conducted several different tests to determine the extent of CO infiltration while a generator is being operated. Generally, the tests revealed that when a gasoline generator is operating CO does infiltrate the recreational vehicle at varying levels depending on the conditions (i.e., location of the unit, length of use, weather, wind, temperature).

While Keystone believes that it remains unlikely that a user of a Keystone recreational vehicle with a gasoline generator will be exposed to harmful levels of CO under normal operating conditions, it still recognizes that any time a gasoline generator is operating, potentially a consumer can be exposed to CO. Keystone does install the battery powered CO detectors in accordance with RVIA guidelines to warn its customers of harmful levels of CO; however, Keystone has determined that it would be in the best interests of its customers to add an additional hard-wired CO detector as an additional safety feature.

**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.**

N/A

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#### **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.**

The remedy is to install a hard wired 12 volt CO detector in the vehicle. This will ensure that the CO detector will have voltage supplied for proper operation when the generator is running and/or when the unit has an external battery installed.

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

The recalled population will not have a 12 volt hard wired detector installed.

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**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 the recall remedy for the Raptor and NRG. The Hideout and Tail-Gator vehicles are no longer in production.

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#### **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.**

Dealer notification will occur on May 30, 2006. Retail notification will occur on June 5, 2006 pending NHTSA approval.

#### **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.**