

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On August 28, 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: August 30, 2006

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 06-075

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.

Garett Carolus, Technical Services Manager

Telephone Number: 574/537-3925 Fax No.: 574/534-9057

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report:

Garett Carolus, Technical Services Manager

Signed:



¹Each 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): Cougar **Model Years Involved:** 2007 **Model(s):** All

Production Dates: Beginning: 7/24/2006 **Ending:** 8/25/2006

VIN Range: Beginning: 4YDF278257C501555 **Ending:** 4YDT268227C502479

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

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

The Cougar vehicles included in the recall were manufactured on the Cougar production line in Pendleton, OR between the dates 7/24/2006 through 8/25/2006. The units in the recall may not have the correct torque on the shackle nuts.

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. 1%

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
Cougar	2007	286

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 286

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 50%

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:

The recall population was determined by employment dates for the team of people responsible for installing the shackle nuts through the date the defect was discovered.

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.

The shackle nuts may not have sufficient torque.

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

The shackle nuts may not have been torqued correctly during manufacturing.

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

If the nuts are not torqued correctly the suspension bolts could loosen and come off while driving.

This will lead to poor vehicle handling and a crash could occur as a result.

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

Poor vehicle handling.

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.

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

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.

8/28/2006 A dealer reported the shackle nuts were missing on VIN 4YDT243297C501938. An inspection of the vehicles in production revealed there were other vehicles with improperly torqued shackle nuts as well. After an investigation, it was determined that due to new employees, the process for torquing the shackle nuts was not being followed. The decision was made to recall all Cougars made in Pendleton, OR from the date the new employees started in that department.

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

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 shackle nut torque will be checked and corrected if necessary by the Cougar dealer.

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

The remedied vehicles will have shackle nuts that are torqued to 30 – 50 ft-lbs.

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.

All vehicles in current production have the correct torque applied to the shackle nuts.

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.

Notification to retail owners will occur on September 22, 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.