



U.S. Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

August 17, 2007

CAROL WALKER
WARRANTY RECOVERY MANAGER
CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
NEWMAR CORPORATION
355 N. DELAWARE STREET
NAPPANEE IN 46550

NVS-215paw
07V-354

Subject: CONNECTING ROD FAILURE/SPARTAN/CUMMINS

Dear MS. WALKER:

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:

NEWMAR/ALL STAR MID-ENGINE/2006-2007
NEWMAR/DUTCH STAR/2006-2007
NEWMAR/KOUNTRY STAR/2006-2007
NEWMAR/VENTANA/2006-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-354

Mfg's Report Date: August 6, 2007

Components: ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING: ENGINE: DIESEL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 308

Summary:

ON CERTAIN MOTOR HOMES BUILT ON SPARTAN MM CHASSIS WITH CUMMINS ISL CM850 DIESEL ENGINES, THE CONNECTING ROD CONTAINS A MACHINING DEFECT IN THE WRIST PIN BUSHING OF THE ROD THAT COULD CAUSE A SEIZURE OF THE PISTON PIN.

Consequence:

IF ALLOWED TO PROGRESS, THIS CAN LEAD TO ENGINE FAILURE WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF THE ROD RUPTURING THE LOCK CAVITY, SPILLING OIL AND DEBRIS ONTO THE ROADWAY, INCREASING THE RISK OF A VEHICLE CRASH.

Remedy:

NEWMAR IS WORKING WITH SPARTAN AND CUMMINS TO RECALIBRATE THE ENGINE CONTROL MODULE AND ENHANCE THE ENGINE PROTECTION SYSTEM ENABLING IT TO PROVIDE EARLY DETECTION OF THE FAILURE MODE AND AVOID MORE SERIOUS ENGINE DAMAGE AND RESULTANT SAFETY HAZARD. CUMMINS WILL ALSO INSTALL A NEW VALVE COVER WITH A CRANKCASE PRESSURE SENSOR FREE OF CHARGE (PLEASE SEE 07E033). OWNERS MAY CONTACT CUMMINS AT 1-800-343-7357 , SPARTAN AT 517-543-6400, OR NEWMAR AT 1-574-773-7791.

Notes:

NEWMAR RECALL NO. SPEC 07008. 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 submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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).

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.

Please provide us with the beginning and ending dates for the build date range of motor homes affected by this recall.

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. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

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@dot.gov, Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@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". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "P".

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