

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹

On May 25,, 2007, Starcraft RV, Inc [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. _____) 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 Responsibility and Reports.**

Date this report was prepared: May 30, 2007 _____

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): _____

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.

Starcraft RV Inc.

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

Joyce Skinner

Vice President, After Market Services

Telephone Number: 260-593-2550 ext. 214 Fax No.: 260-593-4803

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Same as above

Signed: Joyce Skinner

¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210 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): Camping Trailers _____ **Model Years Involved:** 2007

Model(s): 11RT _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 5-1-06 _____ **Ending:** 5-2-06 _____

VIN Range: Beginning: 71BL5806 _____ **Ending:**
71BL5825 _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

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

Frame has been "notched" to accommodate coupler and incompletely welded.

Make(s): Camping Trailers _____ **Model Years Involved:** 2007

Model(s): 14RT _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 5-2-06 _____ **Ending:** 5-4-06 _____

VIN Range: Beginning: 71BA6406 _____ **Ending:**
71BA6425 _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

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

Frame has been "notched" to accommodate coupler and incompletely welded.

Make(s): Camping Trailer _____ **Model Years Involved:** 2007

Model(s): 13RT _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:**

VIN Range: Beginning: 71BB6106 _____ **Ending:**
71BB6135 _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

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

Frame has been "notched" to accommodate coupler and incompletely welded.

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. 100%

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

Vehicles		Number of
<u>Model</u>	<u>Year</u>	
		<u>Potentially Involved</u>
13RT – 2007 model – 30 involved		
14RT – 2007 model – 20 involved		
11RT -- 2007 model – 20 involved		

Total Number Potentially Affected by the
Recall: 70

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 of the units involved were the “first production run” of each model. The coupler chosen could not be used unless the frames were notched for attachment. We were advised by our supplier to change couplers, thus eliminating the notch.

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.

Point at which coupler is welded to frame is not "solid" throughout – has area that is notched (cut out).

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

The notched area can cause the frame to weaken in the area described above.

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

Frame can crack at coupler.

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

Area in question begins to bow downward but does not result in detachment of camper from tow vehicle.

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

Dexter Chassis Group

P.O. Box 698

White Pigeon, MI. 49099

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

Mark Weaver, Quality Systems HSE Manager

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.

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.

#6 – Four reports of cracked frames dating from June 2006, April 16, 2007, May 7-07 and May 16-2007.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

Dexter Chassis is making a steel reinforcement for each unit to be welded underneath the coupler and over the notched area of frame, thus making this area stronger and completing welding process.

9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Picture will be forthcoming in separate email showing defect.

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

Picture will be forthcoming in separate email.

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.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. 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.

Will notify dealers and customers immediately.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

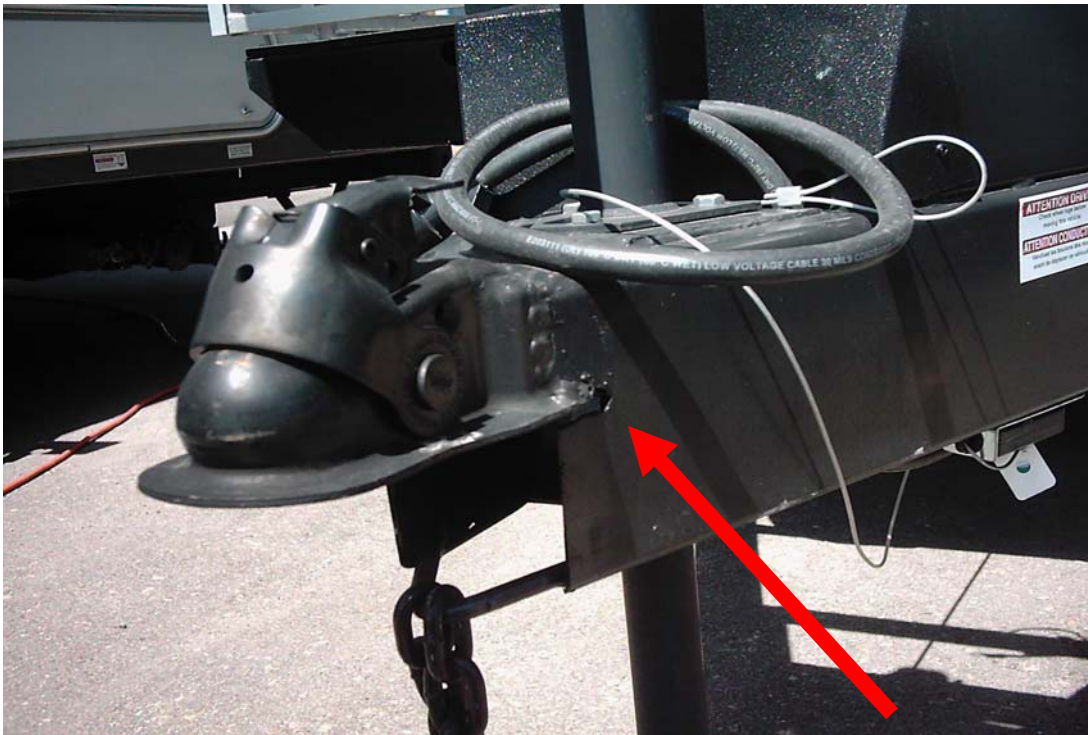
11. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall 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 579.5 requirements.

Problem statement...

On certain Starcraft 2007 11RT, 13RT and 14RT frames there is the potential for a coupler/A-frame problem. The best way to identify these units is to measure the width of the top of the coupler (width is 3") and to determine if there is a notch in the side of the tongue. Please refer to the attached pictures.





The repair will require the addition of a steel bracket to help reinforce the coupler/A-frame interface.

