



ARI – Legacy Sleepers
860 North Tuscany Drive, P.O. Box 246
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www.legacysleepers.com

August 27, 2007

07V-384
(6 pages)

US Department Of Transportation
Attention: Mr. Ric Willard
Office of Defects Investigations Enforcement
1200 Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Regarding: NVS-215RW EQ06-019 Vehicle Equipped with Refrigerator
Manufactured By Dometic Corporation

Dear Ric:

Per review of your letter dated August 20, 2007 regarding the Dometic Corporation (Dometic) and their decision that certain refrigerators that were manufactured between April 1997 and May 2003 may contain a safety defect I would like to present you with the following information and report.

DEFECT INFORMATION/NOTIFICATION REPORT:

Manufacturer's Name & Address:

American Reliance Industries dba ARI Legacy Sleepers
860 North Tuscany Drive
PO Box 246
Shipshewana, IN 46565
260-768-4704

Vehicles Covered By This Report:

The vehicles covered by this report are recreational vehicles that were equipped with certain models of refrigerators manufactured by Dometic Corporation between April 1997 and May 2003.

Total Number of Vehicles: The total number of vehicles covered by this report is (1) One. The reason we only purchased & installed one such refrigerator is because it was installed in a prototype Recreational Vehicle Motorhome and such prototype was never

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released to production. As such the information pertaining to the one unit we purchased was Model: NDR1062LBIMH and Serial Number: 24600020. Per review of the Defect Information Report filed by Dometic it appears that this model and serial number is included in the group of defective refrigerators. We also called and confirmed with Dometic that we only purchased one of the defective refrigerators during the respective period per Dometic Records. Additionally we confirmed that that all other refrigerators used in our facility during the respective periods were purchased from another Manufacturer, Thetford/Norcold.

Description of Vehicle That Contains the Defective Unit: (1) One RV Motorhome

Chronology of Principal Events Involving the Determination That a Safety Related Defect Exists In Our Vehicle:

August 22, 2007 – Received letter from United States Department of Transportation NHTSA

August 22, 2007 – Immediately researched all refrigerator purchased from Dometic during the respective period and determined that only 1 such refrigerator was purchased. This finding agreed to the records presented by Dometic.

August 23, 2007 – Called Dometic with general questions. In general conversation they stated that they sent our Company a notification on the defect parts in April 2007.

Role of the Company In the Distribution Chain for Potentially Affected Refrigerators: We manufacture original equipment for new motor vehicles (OEM) in the form of RV Motorhomes. In this case we purchased the refrigerator and installed it in the RV Motorhome.

Date On Which The Company Received Notification of this Matter from Dometic: Per review of all calendar year 2006 and 2007 Dometic Correspondence files we determined that no notice had been received by our Company regarding the respective safety defect. As such we contacted Dometic and they said they sent us a notification on the defect parts in April 2007.

Company's Primary Purpose: Original Equipment Manufacture (OEM)

Program for Remedying the Defect: Dometic has arranged to conduct a recall to remedy the potential defect in ARI's vehicles at no charge to the vehicle owners. See Recall No. 06E-076. Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6(c)(8)(i) and 573.13, owners will be advised that Dometic will reimburse them if they have incurred costs to obtain a remedy for a refrigerator containing such defect prior to their receipt of the notification.

OWNER NOTIFICATION:

Search For Current Owner: August 22, 2007

Owner List Available Date: August 22, 2007

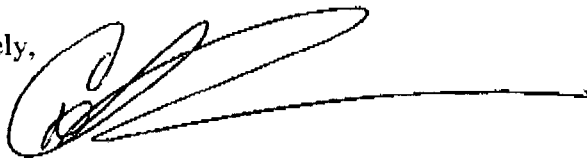
Date Owner Notification Began: August 23, 2007

Date Owner Notification Will Be Completed: September 30, 2007

Date Dealer Notification Will Be Completed: No Dealers Identified. This issues relates to only one prototype RV Motorhome manufactured by the Company.

Please review the Draft Owner Notification Letter enclosed and contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Curt Riegsecker', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Curt Riegsecker
President

Enclosure

(Enclosure No. 5 Owner Notification Letter & Owner Defect Information Report)

ENCLOSURE NO. 5

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Defect Information Report; Vehicles Equipped with
Certain Refrigerators Manufactured by Dometic Corporation

Dear Valued Customer:

[NAME OF VEHICLE MANUFACTURER] has been advised by Dometic Corporation that certain Dometic refrigerators installed as original equipment in some of **[MANUFACTURER'S]** recreational vehicles may contain a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety because they may experience a leak of pressurized coolant solution which can result in a vehicle fire under certain specific circumstances. **[If appropriate, include the model names of the vehicles with the recalled refrigerators.]** On the basis of that Dometic determination, **[MANUFACTURER]** has decided that there may be a potential safety defect in its vehicles equipped with the identified refrigerators, and we are therefore submitting the enclosed Defect Information Report pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at

Sincerely,

NAME
TITLE

Enclosure

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer's name/address:

The manufacturer of the vehicles covered by this Report is:

Manufacturer's Name
Manufacturer's Address

2. Vehicles Involved:

The vehicles covered by this Report are recreational vehicles that were equipped with certain models of refrigerators manufactured by Dometic Corporation between April 1997 and May 2003. The vehicle models in question are as follows: _____.

The vehicles were manufactured during the period from April 1997 through _____ [because it is likely that there was a lag between the time refrigerators were manufactured and the time that they were installed in vehicles, Dometic recommends that you insert "July 2003" or "August 2003" unless you have specific information regarding the dates of manufacture of the last vehicles equipped with the covered refrigerators.]

3. Total number of vehicles:

The total number of vehicles covered by this Report is _____.

4. Approximate percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect:

Based on information received from Dometic, [Manufacturer] believes that approximately .06 percent of these vehicles actually contain the defect.

5. Description of the defect:

Under some circumstances, a fatigue crack can develop in the boiler tube of the covered refrigerators, which can permit the release of pressurized coolant solution. If this solution is exposed to an ignition source under certain specific circumstances, it can result in a vehicle fire.

6. Chronological summary of events leading to this determination:

Dometic advised [Manufacturer] of its defect determination by letter dated _____. [Manufacturer] is not aware of any fires in its vehicles that appear to be related to this defect. [or "[Manufacturer] is aware of only _____ fires in its vehicles that appear to be related to this defect."] Nevertheless, after reviewing the matter, [Manufacturer] decided to submit this defect report.

7. Program for remedying the defect:

Dometic has arranged to conduct a recall to remedy the potential defect in [Manufacturer's] vehicles at no charge to vehicle owners. See Recall No. 06E-076. Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6(c)(8)(i) and 573.13, owners will be advised that Dometic will reimburse them if they have incurred costs to obtain a remedy for a refrigerator containing such a defect prior to their receipt of the notification.

NAME
TITLE