



200 Country Road
Madill, Oklahoma 73446

August 24, 2007

EQ06-019

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
ODI/Recall Management Division – NVS-215RW
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC 20590

07V-387
(7 pages)

RE: Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

Dear Sir,

On August 22, 2007, Contract Manufacturer, L.L.C., DBA CM Trailers, determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in the trailers listed below and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports. The affected trailers manufactured by CM Trailers involve the following models: Legacy, Legend, Norstar, and Winstar.

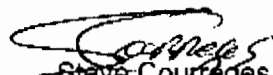
Date of Report: August 24, 2007

The corporate name and contact of the fabricating manufacturer of the recalled trailer is:

Steve Courreges, Vice President
Contract Manufacturer, L.L.C.
DBA CM Trailers
Post Office Box 680
Madill, Oklahoma 73446
(580) 795-5536, Ext. 215
(580) 795-7263, facsimile
Email: scourreges@cmtrailers.com

Further information, as required, is included in the attachments to this notification, entitled "Initial NHTSA Notification, Notice of Proposed Recall of the Legacy, Legend, Norstar, and Winstar Models, Limited to Specific Vehicle Identification Numbers, Safety Related Defect."

Sincerely,


Steve Courreges
Vice President

RECEIVED

2007 AUG 28 A 10:35

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

Initial NHTSA Notification
Notice of Proposed Recall of the Legacy, Legend, Norstar, and Winstar Models
Limited to Specific Vehicle Identification Numbers

1. Vehicle Models Involved in Recall:

- a) Make: CM Trailers (Contract Manufacturer, L.L.C.)
- b) Model Years Involved: 2000 – 2001
- c) Models: Legacy, Legend, Norstar, and Winstar
- d) Production Dates: January 12, 2000 thru March 16, 2001
- e) VIN Numbers (Last 6 Digits):

Legacy	Legend	Norstar	Winstar
050559	046826	049538	045805
051464	047795	050751	048736
051529	047958	051692	
	048196		
	048330		
	048779		
	049544		

- f) Vehicle Type: Trailer Body Style: Horse Trailer with Living Quarters

- g) Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those models not included in the recall: The subject trailers are all horse trailers manufactured between January 2000 and March 2001 with a 6-cubic foot double-door refrigerator installed as part of a living quarter package.

2. Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

<u>Model</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Number</u>
Legacy	2000	1
Legacy	2001	2
Legend	2000	5
Legend	2001	2
Norstar	2000	1
Norstar	2001	2
Winstar	2000	2

3. Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 15

- a) Estimated percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually have the defect: 60%

Initial NHTSA Notification
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- b) How was the recall population determined: Upon review of purchase orders, it was revealed that CM Trailers purchased nine Dometic 6-cubic foot, double door refrigerators. These refrigerators were purchased between January 2000 and November 2000. The refrigerators in question were only installed in customized horse trailers and ordered based upon short term production requirements. As such, all horse trailers with a CM Trailers' installed living quarters manufactured between January 2000 and March 2001 were included in the recall population.

4. Describe defect or noncompliance (should address the nature and physical location of defect or noncompliance):

- a) Describe cause of defect: The potential defect for the Dometic refrigerator is associated with the cooling unit at the back of the refrigeration cabinet. A fractional percentage of the potentially affected refrigerators have experienced a fatigue crack that may develop in the boiler tube in the area of the weld between the boiler tube and the heater pocket. A fatigue crack may release a sufficient amount of pressurized coolant solution into an area where an ignition source (gas flame) is present. Dometic's investigation has shown that a simulated release of cooling solution (refrigerant) in the area of the boiler, under certain conditions, could be ignited by the presence of an open flame. A boiler fatigue crack with the loss of cooling solution without ignition would result in a non-operational refrigerator that is not a safety issue. Under certain conditions, the released coolant could ignite and result in a fire. In order to have a fire, at a minimum, all of the following conditions must exist:

1. The refrigerator must be on and normally operation and gas burner must be lit;
2. There must be an oversized heating element in the refrigerator.
3. The boiler tube must develop a throughway fatigue crack of a specific size;
4. There must be a release of the cooling solution at a rate which will allow the accumulation of the cooling solution at a concentration within its range of flammability; and
5. There must be ignition source (gas flame) present.

- b) For additional information regarding the defect, please refer to the Dometic Defect Information Report filed with NHTSA on August 28, 2006.

5. Chronological summary of the principal events that were the basis for determination of the defect – describe in detail the events starting with the first report of a problem and the events that were involved in the investigation and determination of a defect: Dometic became aware of the occurrence of fires which may have involved their products and retained an independent engineering testing laboratory to fully evaluate and investigate any potential defect in their refrigerators which might result in fire. A number of returned units were analyzed and microscopic fatigue cracks which could release coolant into the area of the burner were identified in the boiler tube metal in the area of the weld between the heater pocket and boiler tube. Tests simulating the cracks were conducted the week of August 18, 2006 and confirmed a possible cause of fire in the refrigerators under certain conditions. These test results prompted Dometic to move forward with a product recall. On August 22, 2007, CM Trailers

Initial NHTSA Notification
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received notification from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration concerning the potential Dometic refrigerator safety issues. On August 24, 2007, CM Trailers was able to contact their Dometic representative who referred them to a third party, Stericycle, who would be handling matters associated with the recall.

6. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance: Dometic has arranged to conduct a recall to remedy the potential defect in CM Trailers' 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.
7. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufactures, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.
 - a) Initial notification to dealers: Notification of dealers will be completed no later than September 21, 2007.
 - b) Initial notification to retail purchasers and registered owners: Communication to all known owners to be completed prior to September 21, 2007.
 - c) Foreseeable problems with implementing the recall: We do not foresee any problem with implementing the recall.
8. Furnish Recall Communications: A draft of the notification document is attached. Stericycle, a third party company retained by Dometic, will customize the letter(s) to meet specific requirements.

Vehicle Manufacturers Logo

Subject: (Insert Vehicle Manufacturer's Name) Dometic Refrigerator Recall
NHTSA Recall #

Dear Valued Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

(Insert Vehicle Manufacturer) has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain vehicles it manufactured equipped with Dometic refrigerators. This decision was based on information provided by Dometic Corporation that a defect exists in some of the refrigerators that Dometic manufactured between April 1997 and May 2003 for installation in recreational vehicles. (Insert Vehicle Manufacturer) installed these refrigerators in recreational vehicles that it manufactured from April 1997 to (insert month / year).

The Problem:

A fatigue crack can develop in the boiler tube of the identified 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.

Affected Units:

The potentially affected refrigerators have the following model numbers:

NDR1062, RM2652, RM2662, RM2663, RM2852, RM2862, RM3662, RM3663, RM3862, RM3863

The possibly affected units have serial numbers beginning with the following combinations:

713xxxxx through 752xxxxx

801xxxxx through 852xxxxx

901xxxxx through 952xxxxx

001xxxxx through 052xxxxx

101xxxxx through 152xxxxx

201xxxxx through 252xxxxx

301xxxxx through 319xxxxx.

If you own one of the above units, it requires immediate service and continuing use could pose a potential safety hazard.

WHAT WE WILL DO

(Insert Vehicle Manufacturer), in cooperation with Dometic, will provide owners of all covered refrigerators a rework for the potential defect at no charge for parts or labor. The rework consists of secondary burner housing, a thermal fuse and a melt fuse.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

How Do I Know If My Refrigerator Is Being Recalled?

- 1) Find your refrigerators' model and serial numbers by opening the refrigerator door and looking for the sticker attached to the side wall of the interior. See the photo instructions included in this mailing for the exact location of the sticker.
- 2) Call 1-888-446-5157 or go to www.DometicUSA.com to confirm if your refrigerator is affected by the recall.

What to Do:

- 1) **Turn the refrigerator off immediately if you notice any of the following indicators:**
 - Leakage or staining at the back of the refrigerator.
 - Yellow residue at the back or sides of the refrigerator.
 - The smell of ammonia.
 - Refrigerator does not properly cool

Any unit found to have one or more of the characteristics mentioned above MUST be shut down and not operated until the unit is fixed and the recall rework administered.

For any unit that does fall within the recall population, but does not exhibit any of the four indicators mentioned in #1, consider the following:

- 2) Do not operate your refrigerator on LP gas. Switching to electric power lowers the incident rate associated with LP gas. If you own a 3-way refrigerator, running the unit on 12-volt power carries the least risk of all. 3-way refrigerators have model numbers that end in "3".

Dometic recommends that the unit not be operated on electric unless absolutely necessary until your unit has been serviced. **If you choose to operate your unit on electric prior to the recall rework, you must inspect the burner area weekly for any of the indicators referenced in number 1 above.**

- 3) Dometic recommends that you turn off the gas valve at the back of your refrigerator. DO NOT, however, attempt to disconnect the gas supply. Instructions on how to turn off the gas valve are included in this envelope.
- 4) If you must operate your refrigerator on electric, DO NOT operate your refrigerator while in transit or while occupants are asleep.
- 5) The rework kit is available. Please call your preferred service center to set up an appointment. For help in locating a service center, or for the most up-to-date recall information, call 1-888-446-5157.

Please do not simply go to a dealer or service center without an appointment, since some facilities will not be performing this work, and the ones that are doing the work will need to obtain the appropriate parts from us. Please bring this letter with you at the time of your scheduled service.

- 6) If the repair facility fails or is unable to rework this noncompliance without charge and within a reasonable time, please contact us at the number provided above so we can attempt to resolve the problem. You may also submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.
- 7) If you previously paid to repair or replace a Dometic refrigerator that failed due to this defect, you can be reimbursed for your costs pursuant to Dometic's Pre-Notification Reimbursement Program. To be eligible for reimbursement under that Program, you must complete and submit the required form and provide the necessary documentation. The Program and form can be obtained by calling 1-888-446-5157.

If You No Longer Own This Recreational Vehicle:

If you are no longer the owner of the recreational vehicle, we would greatly appreciate you furnishing us with the name and address of the new owner by calling 1-888-446-5157.

You May Receive More Than One Mailing In Regards To The Recall:

To reach as many customers as possible, (Insert Vehicle Manufacturer) and Dometic will each send notifications in regards to this recall. Be advised that though you may receive multiple notifications, all pertain to this same, single recall.

Your safety and satisfaction with your (Insert Vehicle Manufacturer) product are important to us and we regret any inconvenience to you.

Sincerely,

(Insert Vehicle Manufacturer)