

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports**<sup>1</sup>

On August 18,, 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: 9-7-07 \_\_\_\_\_

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): None \_\_\_\_\_

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, VP After Market Services  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Joyce Skinner, VP After Market Services  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

**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):** Starcraft \_\_\_\_\_ **Model Years Involved:** 1997-2003

**Model(s):** Travel Trailers and Fifth Wheels \_\_\_\_\_

**Production Dates: Beginning:** 4-1997 **Ending:** 8-2003

**VIN Range: Beginning:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle Type:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Bodystyle:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Only affected units with double door refrigerators installed.

**Make(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Model Years Involved:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Model(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Production Dates: Beginning:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VIN Range: Beginning:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle Type:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Bodystyle:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Make(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Model Years Involved:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Model(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Production Dates: Beginning:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VIN Range: Beginning:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle Type:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Bodystyle:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**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,**



**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:**

Notified by Dometic when problem occurred

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**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.**

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Fatigue crack may develop in boiler tube

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

In April of 1997 Dometic modified the design of the affected refrigerators by increasing the wattage of the heating element from 325 watts to 354 watts. All production of the affected units from April 1997 through May of 2003 utilized the 354 watt heating element. In May of 2003, in order to improve the operating life of the refrigerators, Dometic returned to the use of the 325 watt heating element which it continues to use today. It is now believed that the use of the higher wattage heater contributed to abnormal fatigue in the boiler tube.

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

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Fire may result in refrigerator

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

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none

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

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Dometic Corporation

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PO Box 490

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Elkhart, IN 46515

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

John Waters, CEO/President

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**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. None**

**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.**

none

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Dometic repaired problem.

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**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.**

Stericycle handling recall on behalf of Starcraft and Dometic

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**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.**

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

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**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.**

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**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.**

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## **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.**