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Kenneth N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

June 19, 2006

07V-522
(2 pages)

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. submits the following information concerning a safety defect on 2006 & 2007 Model Year Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. motor homes built on Workhorse Custom Chassis built with the incorrect Steering Intermediate Shaft.

573.6 (c) (2) – Potentially Affected Vehicles

The following model year 2006 & 2007 Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. motor homes built from 1/5/05 through 4/25/06 are potentially affected;

Model Families: Sun Voyager, Sun Voyager Special Edition, Independence & Sun Sport
Model Numbers: 8292SPE, 8295I, 8295MXG, 8351MXG, 8357I, 8358I, 8361I, 8361LTD, 8368MXG, 8368SLS, 8377MXG, 8378MXG, 8379MXG, 8388LXG, 8388MXG, 8389LXG, 8389MXG

573.6 (c) (3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

One hundred and thirty-nine (139) motor home chassis were identified by Workhorse as being sold to Gulf Stream Coach, Inc and included in Recall 06V148000.

573.6 (c) (4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Condition

At this point Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. estimates that 100% of the potentially affected vehicles and One hundred and thirty-five (135) were shipped with the defective Steering Intermediate Shaft prior to Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. receiving notification from Workhorse of the defect.

573.6 (c) (5) – Description of the Noncompliance

The non-compliance exists in Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. motor homes built on Workhorse Custom Chassis (Workhorse) manufactured with the an incorrect steering intermediate shaft. An incorrect steering intermediate shaft may have been installed on some of the subject chassis during relevant production period. The incorrect part (W0007621) has a finer pitch spline than the correct part (W0000450). Use of the incorrect part may cause the spline not to match correctly with the corresponding steering gear input shaft. On vehicles equipped with the incorrect part, the spline can strip if the steering wheel is turned with

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a significant amount of force. The force required to strip the spline (i.e., steering wheel input of 10 to 90 ft-lbs of torque) is more than ordinary users will experience. This failure is likely only to occur when the vehicle is stopped or during tight turning maneuvers at very low speeds. This condition may result in a loss of steering control.

573.6 (c) (7) – Basis for Non-Compliance

Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. was informed of the non-compliance as a result of the NHTSA assigned recall number 06V148000 for Workhorse Custom Chassis (Workhorse).

573.6 (c) (8) – Service Program

On 6/16/06 Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. supplied Workhorse with an updated owner and dealer contact information for all of the possibly affected vehicles that were shipped from our production facility prior to having the recall work performed on them.

573.6 (c) (9) – Owner and Dealer Letters

Workhorse is sending the letters and conducting the recall.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Satoski
Compliance Engineer
Gulf Stream Coach, Inc.
(574)289-8787 x3312