



November 21, 2007

RECEIVED
2007 DEC. - 18 AM 9:30
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

Ms. Kathy DeMeter, Director
Office of Defects Investigation
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
400 - 7th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Winnebago Industries[®] submits the following report pursuant to Part 573 of the NHTSA regulations. The numbered paragraphs below correspond to those found at Part 573.5(c).

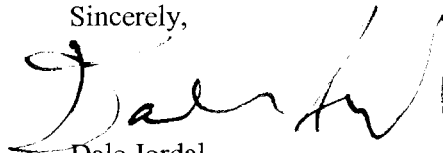
1. Winnebago Industries, Inc.
P.O. Box 152
Forest City, IA 50436
2. The motor vehicles potentially containing the defective component are: Certain 2004 through 2008 Winnebago[®] model Vecta and Itasca[®] model Horizon motor homes. These motor homes were built between July 14, 2003 through August 17, 2007. The vehicles are being identified using the model number and production records showing VINs.
3. The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defective component is: 1972.
4. The percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect is unknown.
5. The defect involves certain ZF model 8018 steering gears which may have been assembled with the incorrect recirculation ball spacer potentially allowing the recirculating balls to escape from the recirculating ball circuit resulting in a loss of steering. On affected units the operator may notice higher required steering wheel inputs, or the need for more steering wheel adjustments while driving in a straight line in combination with metallic cracking noises prior to loss of steering, which could result in a vehicle crash.
6. Winnebago Industries discovered the defect as a result of a November 20, 2007 phone call from Alex Ansley of NHTSA. Reference recall # 07V-343
7. N/A.
8. Winnebago will continue to assist Freightliner LLC to correct the situation as we provide them a current list of owners on a weekly basis. Freightliner LLC will be conducting the recall.
9. N/A.
10. N/A.
11. N/A.

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Ms. Kathy DeMeter, Director
November 21, 2007
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Should you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Jordal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail.

Dale Jordal
Product Safety Administrator

0711p573

Enclosure

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2007 AUG. - 8 P 9:00

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.



Nasser Zamani
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

07V-343
(3 Pages)

Freightliner LLC
4747 N. Channel Ave
Portland, OR 97217-7699
503-745-6910 Phone
503-745-5544 Fax
NasserZamani@Freightliner.com

July 23, 2007

Dan Smith
Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report FL-509, ZF 8018 Steering Gear Spacer

Mr. Smith:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Freightliner LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 6,227, Freightliner Custom Chassis, XC Chassis, CX-R Chassis, VCL Chassis, XC-F Chassis, XC-L Chassis, XC-P Chassis, & XB-R Chassis manufactured June 13, 2002 through June 13, 2007 with a potential defect in the ZF model 8018 steering gear.

Attached is Freightliner's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,


Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA

Enclosure

Certified Mail#

7003 2260 0001 3403 4964

Defect Information Report
(Section 573.6)

July 23, 2007

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Freightliner LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219

Brands: Freightliner Custom Chassis

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: XC Chassis, CX-R Chassis, VCL Chassis, XC-F Chassis, XC-L Chassis, XC-P Chassis, & XB-R Chassis

Model Years affected: 2003 through 2008

Manufacture Dates: June 13, 2002 through June 13, 2007

Basis for determining population: All ZF 8018 steering gears with date codes prior to 270407 45 5B. These Steering gears were delivered to Freightliner as components of Independent Front Suspension Assemblies with date codes prior to K149-005.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Steering Gear

ZF Heavy Duty Steering Inc.

50 Harwill Road
St. Thomas, ON N5P 4M6
David Peno 847-478-6754

Independent Front Suspension Assemblies

ZF Commercial Suspension Systems
& Components, LLC.

946 Quality Drive
Lancaster, SC 29721
Greg Henderson 803-416-8957

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 6,227

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: Unknown

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Certain ZF model 8018 steering gears may have been assembled with the incorrect recirculating ball spacer potentially allowing the recirculating balls to escape from the recirculating ball circuit resulting in a loss of steering. On affected units the operator may notice higher required steering wheel inputs, or the need for more steering wheel adjustments while driving in a straight line in combination with metallic cracking noises prior to a loss of steering.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Loss of steering could result in a vehicle crash.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: On July 2, 2007 ZF Commercial Suspension Systems & Components, LLC. notified Freightliner that certain Independent Front Suspension assemblies provided to Freightliner contained potentially defective steering gears manufactured by ZF Heavy Duty Steering Inc.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: Not Applicable

(c)(8) Remedial program: The steering gear date code on potentially affected vehicles will be reviewed to determine if the gear is part of the suspect population. Suspect steering gears will be replaced. Repairs will be performed by Freightliner dealerships and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by Freightliner to do their own warranty repairs. *Estimated dealer notification will be completed by September 18, 2007.*

Estimated Owner Notification Date: Customer notification will be by first class mail using Freightliner records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately September 23, 2007.

Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c) (9) Communications sent to dealers and owners: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c) (10) Copy of proposed owner notification letter: A draft will be sent for ODI review when available.

(c) (11) Manufacturer's campaign number: FL-509