



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 24, 2008

MR. DAVID M MIHALICK
STANDARDS COMPLIANCE MANAGER
THOR INDUSTRIES, INC.
PO BOX 629
JACKSON CENTER, OH 45334-0629

NVS-215paw
08V-189

SUBJECT: IMPROPER ROUTING OF LP GAS LINE IN SLIDE-OUT ROOM

DEAR MR. MIHALICK:

This letter serves to acknowledge Four Winds International's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

FOUR WINDS/CHATEAU SPORT/2008-2009
FOUR WINDS/DUTCHMEN EXPRESS/2008-2009
FOUR WINDS/FOUR WINDS 5000/2008-2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-189

Mfg's Report Date: April 24, 2008

Components: EQUIPMENT: RECREATIONAL VEHICLE: LPG LINES AND FITTINGS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 104

Summary:

FOUR WINDS IS RECALLING 104 MY 2008-2009 CHATEAU SPORT, DUTCHMEN EXPRESS, AND FOUR WINDS 5000 MOTOR HOMES. THESE MOTOR HOMES MAY HAVE IMPROPER ROUTING OF THE PROPANE GAS LINE WITHIN THE SLIDE-OUT ROOM.

Consequence:

CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE SLIDE-ROOM MAY RESULT IN A RUPTURE OF THIS PROPANE SUPPLY LINE POTENTIALLY CAUSING A GAS LEAK, FIRE OR EXPLOSION RESULTING IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

Remedy:

FOUR WINDS WILL INSTRUCT OWNERS TO IMMEDIATELY TURN OFF THE PROPANE SUPPLY VALVE, SUSPEND USE OF PROPANE APPLIANCES, AND TAKE THE MOTOR HOME TO THEIR NEAREST FOUR WINDS DEALER OR SERVICE CENTER FOR REPAIR. DEALERS WILL RECONFIGURE THE PROPANE SUPPLY LINE TO ALLOW PROPER MOVEMENT OF THE LINE WITHOUT BINDING OR CHAFING. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED AN OWNER NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE FOR THIS CAMPAIGN. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FOUR WINDS AT 1-574-266-1111.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at Patricia.wallace@dot.gov, Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Wallace".

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement