



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 14, 2008

MR. BOB TIFFIN
PRESIDENT
TIFFIN MOTORHOMES, INC.
105 2ND STREET, NW
RED BAY, AL 35582

NVS-215dgl
08V-393

Subject: STEERING ARM/TIE ROD ARM/FREIGHTLINER

Dear MR. TIFFIN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Tiffin Motorhomes, Inc.'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:
TIFFIN/PHAETON/2007-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-393

Mfg's Report Date: August 1, 2008

Components: STEERING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 271

Summary:

TIFFIN IS RECALLING 271 MY 2007-2008 PHAETON CLASS A MOTOR HOMES EQUIPPED WITH FREIGHTLINER CHASSIS. THE AAC FRONT AXLE STEERING ARM BOLTS WITH A LATCH LEVER PIVOT BOLT ASSEMBLY MAY HAVE BEEN OVER TIGHTENED.

Consequence:

OVER-TIGHTENED STEERING ARM BOLTS MAY FATIGUE AND FRACTURE INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

TIFFIN IS WORKING WITH FREIGHTLINER TO HAVE THE STEERING ARM TIE ROD FASTENERS INSPECTED AND REPLACED. THE STEERING ARM WILL BE INSPECTED FOR CLEARANCE TO THE KING PIN BOSS. FREIGHTLINER IS HANDLING THE REMEDY FOR THIS CAMPAIGN. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 1-800-547-0712.

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).

This recall was the subject of an Equipment Query, EQ08-008, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

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

Please provide us with the beginning and ending dates for the build date range of motor homes affected by this recall.

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).

As stated in your report, Daimler Trucks (Freightliner) will be handling the owner notification, remedy, and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.6 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Daimler Trucks' campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

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 black ink, appearing to read "G. Person". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

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