



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 26, 2008

MR. JEFFREY C. SATOSKI
COMPLIANCE ENGINEER
GULF STREAM COACH, INC.
503 SOUTH OAKLAND AVENUE
NAPPANEE, INDIANA 46550

NVS-215dgl
08V-426

Subject: POWER STEERING FILTER PLUGS/FREIGHTLINER

Dear MR. SATOSKI:

This letter serves to acknowledge Gulf Stream Coach'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:

GULF STREAM/CRESCENDO/2006-2007
GULF STREAM/FRIENDSHIP/2006-2007
GULF STREAM/TOURMASTER/2006-2007
GULF STREAM/YELLOWSTONE/2006-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-426

Mfg's Report Date: August 8, 2008

Components: STEERING: HYDRAULIC POWER STEERING ASSIST

Potential Number of Units Affected: 99

Summary:

GULF STREAM IS RECALLING 99 MY 2006-2007 CRESCENDO, FRIENDSHIP, YELLOWSTONE, FRIENDSHIP, AND TOURMASTER MOTOR HOME CHASSIS BUILT USING INLINE POWER STEERING FILTERS. THE FILTER CAN PLUG DUE TO FAILURE OF THE SCREEN ADHESION TO THE FILTER HOUSING CAUSING A RISE IN RETURN LINE PRESSURE. THIS CAN LEAD TO HOSE SEPARATION FROM THE FILTER OR STEERING GEAR FITTING RESULTING IN A SUDDEN LOSS OF STEERING FLUID AND POWER ASSIST.

Consequence:

SUDDEN LOSS OF STEERING ASSIST WITHOUT WARNING INVOLVING A MOTOR HOME COULD BE A PROBLEM FOR CERTAIN DRIVERS INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

GULF STREAM IS WORKING WITH DAIMLER TRUCKS TO REPLACE THE AFFECTED FILTERS WITH A LARGER FILTER (PLEASE SEE 07V570). OWNERS MAY CONTACT DAIMLER TRUCKS AT 1-800-547-0712 OR GULF STREAM AT 1-574-773-7761.

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.

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

Notification to owners as required by 49 CFR Part 577 must be sent by the vehicle manufacturer(s). Therefore, 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. 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, Freightliner will be handling the 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 Freightliner's 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 be 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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