



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 27, 2008

MR. RYAN A. LEHMAN
CODES AND COMPLIANCE MANAGER
NEWMAR CORPORATION
355 N. DELAWARE ST.
NAPPANEE, IN 46550

NVS-215dgl
08V-427

Subject: POWER STEERING FILTER PLUGS/FREIGHTLINER

Dear MR. LEHMAN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Newmar Corporation'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:

NEWMAR/KOUNTRY STAR DIESEL PUSHER/2005-2006
NEWMAR/NORTHERN STAR DIESEL PUSHER /2005
NEWMAR/VENTANA DIESEL PUSHER /2006

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-427

Mfg's Report Date: August 18, 2008

Components: STEERING: HYDRAULIC POWER STEERING ASSIST

Potential Number of Units Affected: 274

Summary:

NEWMAR IS RECALLING 274 MY 2005 KOUNTRY STAR DIESEL PUSHER, NORTHERN STAR DIESEL PUSHER AND MY 2006 VENTANA DIESEL PUSHER MOTOR HOMES BUILT ON FREIGHTLINER CHASSIS. SPECIFIC INLINE POWER STEERING FILTERS MAY BECOME PLUGGED, RESULTING IN HOSE SEPARATION FROM THE FILTER OR STEERING GEAR FITTING. THIS HOSE SEPARATION WOULD RESULT IN LOSS OF STEERING FLUID AND LOSS OF POWER STEERING ASSIST.

Consequence:

LOSS OF POWER STEERING ASSIST WOULD EFFECTIVELY INCREASE THE STEERING EFFORT REQUIRED AND COULD LEAD TO LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL.

Remedy:

NEWMAR IS WORKING WITH DAIMLER TRUCKS TO HAVE THE FILTERS REPLACED WITH A LARGER FILTER (PLEASE SEE 07V570). OWNERS MAY CONTACT DAIMLER TRUCKS AT 1-800-547-0712 OR NEWMAR AT 574-773-7791.

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 read "G. Person". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "P".

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