

RECEIVED 2008  
JUNE 10 - 10:30 AM  
OFFICE OF RECALL  
MANAGEMENT  
DIVISION

08V-260  
(3 Pages)

# Carriage

P.O. BOX 246 MILLERSBURG, IN 46543 PHONE: 574\*642\*3622 FAX: 574\*642\*4145 WWW.CARRIAGEINC.COM

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report; Vehicles Equipped with  
Certain Refrigerators Manufactured by Norcold Corporation

Dear Mr. Smith,

Carriage has been advised by Norcold Inc. that certain Norcold refrigerators installed as original equipment in some of Carriage's recreational vehicles may contain a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety because they may experience fatigue failures in the section of the cooling unit which contains the refrigerant. On the basis of that Norcold determination, Carriage has decided that there may be a potential safety defect in its vehicles equipped with the identified refrigerators, and we are therefore submitting the enclosed Defect Information Report pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.

The detailed information regarding the population of Carriage vehicles containing the affected equipment as well as a listing of Carriage dealers has already been provided to Norcold.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Colglazier  
Chief Operating Officer  
Carriage, Inc.  
574-642-3622 Ext 612

Enclosure

# Carriage

P.O. BOX 246 MILLERSBURG, IN 46543 PHONE: 574\*642\*3622 FAX: 574\*642\*4145 WWW.CARRIAGEINC.COM

June 5, 2008

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street SW  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, Carriage ("Carriage" or the "Company") is submitting this report to NHTSA concerning a recall campaign, which is being voluntarily initiated. Specific information is as follows:

#### Identification of Vehicles in Campaign

The vehicles covered by this Report are recreational vehicles that were equipped with certain models of refrigerators manufactured by Norcold Inc. between March 1, 1999 and February 28, 2001.

Carri-Lite	2001 – 2002
Carriage	1999 – 2001
Carriage LS	2000 – 2002
Royals	1999 – 2001

The recall population was determined from the manufacturing records for the Company's manufacturing plants in Millersburg, Indiana that produced the affected fifth wheel trailers. More specifically, the scope has been derived by identification of units equipped with the specific models of refrigerators that were offered during the stated model years.

#### Campaign Population

The total number of vehicles covered by this Report is 187 (one hundred eighty-seven).

#### Defect Estimate

Based on information received from Norcold, Carriage believes that approximately 100 percent of these vehicles actually contain the defect.

# Carriage

P.O. BOX 246 MILLERSBURG, IN 46543 PHONE: 574\*642\*3622 FAX: 574\*642\*4145 WWW.CARRIAGETNC.COM

## Description of Defect

A fatigue failure in the section of the cooling unit which contains the refrigerant could allow the liquid solution to slowly leak. If a leak occurs and the refrigerator continues to be operated after solution circulation has ceased, the heat source could generate very high temperatures. At such high temperatures, the steel material of the cooling unit could soften and rupture. If refrigerant gas is still in place when the rupture occurs, hydrogen gas may be expelled and could be ignited by the high temperature, possibly causing a fire.

## Chronology of Events

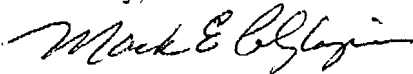
Norcold advised Carriage of its defect determination by letter dated May 21, 2008. Carriage is not aware of any fires in its vehicles that appear to be related to this defect. Nevertheless, after reviewing the matter, Carriage decided to submit this defect report.

## Remedy Program

Norcold has arranged to conduct a recall to remedy the potential defect in Carriage vehicles at no charge to vehicle owners. See Recall No. 08E-030. Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6(c)(8)(i) and 573.13, owners will be advised that Norcold will reimburse them if they have incurred costs to obtain a remedy for a refrigerator containing such a defect prior to their receipt of the notification.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Colglazier  
Carriage Incorporated