

June 26, 2008

VIA E-MAIL
RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED

RECEIVED
2008 JULY 2 - 9:30 AM
OFFICE OF RECALL
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

08V-289
(4 Pages)

Re: Damon Corporation
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Damon has been notified by Norcold concerning a safety defect involving refrigerators that were built between March 1, 1999 and February 28, 2001 inclusive. Norcold has already initiated a safety recall campaign with respect to this non-compliance. NHTSA has assigned recall number 08E-030 to the Norcold recall campaign.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain motorhomes manufactured by Damon were built with Norcold refrigerators that contain the safety defect.

As more specifically set forth below, Norcold has agreed to conduct the recall campaign involving these defective refrigerators. Damon will provide Norcold with a list of dealers and owners to assist Norcold in remedying the non-compliance. Norcold will be filing the quarterly reports in connection with the recall campaign.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The defective refrigerators supplied by Norcold have been used on the following motorhomes:

<u>Makes</u>	<u>Models</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
Intruder	349, 352	1999
Ultrasport	3670	1999
Escaper	3980	1999

These motorhomes were manufactured by Damon between June 1998 and June 1999. The total number of motorhomes subject to this recall campaign is 804.

- B. Description of Defect. The nature of the defect is a fatigue failure in the section of the cooling unit which contains the refrigerant. This fatigue failure could allow the liquid solution to slowly leak from the cooling unit. 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. Approximately 17% of the motorhomes manufactured by Damon contain a Norcold refrigerator that has the defect.

- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Damon received notification from Norcold on or about March 21, 2008 regarding their recall of the defective refrigerators.
- D. Remedying of Defect. As set forth in the notification issued by Norcold in connection with recall campaign 08E-030, Norcold will retrofit a thermal switch kit which will prevent temperature elevation. The owners of the motorhomes subject to this recall campaign will be advised to contact Norcold in order to make arrangements to have the remedy completed by Norcold. Norcold will implement the recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in recall campaign 08E-030. Norcold has agreed to remedy the defect without charge to the owners.
- E. Owner Notifications. Damon will provide Norcold the owner's information and assist them in contacting the motorhome owners. A copy of the owner's letter is attached for approval.
- F. Dealer Notifications. Damon will provide Norcold the dealer's information and assist them in contacting the Damon Dealers. A copy of the dealer's letter is attached for approval.
- G. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Norcold will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with recall campaign 08E-030. Because the information included by Norcold in its quarterly reports will encompass the remedying of the Damon motorhomes subject to this recall campaign, Damon will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication.
- H. Campaign Number. Damon does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Damon will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Damon with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Damon in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363 or Damon at 800-860-3812.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries, Standards Compliance Manager



June 30, 2008

DEALERS AND SERVICE CENTERS SAFETY DEFECT NOTIFICATION:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and Transport Canada.

Damon, a manufacturer of vehicles for the recreational vehicle industry, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Norcold gas/electric refrigerators. On July 22, 2002 Norcold undertook a motor vehicle equipment safety recall to address a potential fatigue failure in cooling units made by Norcold serving as components in Norcold refrigerator model numbers 1200LR and 1200LRIM built from December 1, 1996 to February 28, 1999. In addition, Damon has decided that this recall should be extended to include cooling units serving as components in Norcold refrigerator models 1200LR, 1200LRIM and 1201LRIM manufactured from March 1, 1999 to February 28, 2001. Each cooling unit under this extension has a serial number between 1008701 and 1273700, non-consecutively.

The cooling unit serial number is located on the solution chamber, which can be viewed through the refrigerator vent door from the outside of the vehicle. **Note: the serial number on the cooling unit differs from the serial number of the refrigerator. If the cooling unit serial number falls within the range of 1008701 and 1273700 and indicates no signs of leaking, then it must be retrofitted with a Thermal Switch Kit. However, if a Cooling Unit does indicate signs of leaking, then it must be replaced.** If a refrigerator is one of the models listed above and has a cooling unit with a serial number that falls within the defined range and if no leaks are evident, it requires **immediate** service.

Consumers with a Cooling Unit serial number within the range of 1008701 and 1273700 should be advised NOT to operate their refrigerator until it can be properly checked.

Total time allowance for a cooling unit initial inspection and subsequent thermal switch kit installation will be 1.5 hours. All parts and the labor to inspect and install them will be at no charge to the consumer. If a leak is found in the cooling unit, the cooling unit must be replaced; this replacement will also be at no charge to the customer. All cooling units removed must be returned to Norcold. Total time allowance for a cooling unit replacement will be 4.5 hours. Upon receipt of the claim form, you will be reimbursed for the appropriate time listed above at your standard labor rate.

IMPORTANT: Some of the involved refrigerators may be in your used vehicle inventory. Federal law requires the corrective action to be completed on these refrigerators before retail delivery. To identify if a refrigerator requires corrective action, verify the refrigerator model and the cooling unit serial number as referenced above. You are prohibited from selling a product which has been identified by this corrective action campaign unless the product has first received the specified corrective action.

Owner notification is expected to begin May 2008. Owners are being instructed to contact their RV dealer or a Norcold authorized service center to arrange a service date. Copies of the owner notification and corrective action procedures are attached. Since the majority of these recalled units are in RVs built in the period from March 1, 1999 through April 2001, we would appreciate any assistance you could provide in helping us to notify the owners of vehicles built during this time frame. You can call Damon at 1-800-860-3812 for questions regarding this recall or Norcold's Recall Center at 800 767-9101.

To report a recalled cooling unit and to order a thermal switch kit, please call Norcold's Recall Center at 800 767-9101 and be prepared with the owner and vehicle information. All thermal switch kits required under this specific recall program will be shipped direct to you from Norcold at no charge and will include the necessary forms for processing your claim for labor reimbursement.

If you would like to check the status of a recalled unit or verify whether a cooling unit falls under this recall, you can also visit Norcold's website at www.norcold.com and click on the Customer Support link at the top of the page, followed by the Recall Info link. From there you can click on the 'Check Status' button to see if a cooling unit serial number is under recall.

We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in conducting this safety recall. Our first priority is the safety of our products and the satisfaction of our customers. If you should have questions please call 800 767-9101.

Sincerely,

Janae Kurtz
VP of Customer Service and Parts



June 30, 2008

OWNER SAFETY DEFECT NOTIFICATION:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and Transport Canada.

Damon a manufacturer of vehicles for the recreational vehicle industry has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Norcold gas/electric refrigerators and, as such, the vehicles equipped with these refrigerators. On July 22, 2002 Norcold announced and undertook a motor vehicle equipment safety recall to address a potential fatigue failure in cooling units made by Norcold serving as components in Norcold refrigerator model numbers 1200LR and 1200LRIM built from December 1, 1996 to February 28, 1999. Damon has determined that this recall should be extended to include cooling units serving as components in Norcold models 1200LR, 1200LRIM and 1201LRIM manufactured from March 1, 1999 to February 28, 2001. Each cooling unit under this extension has a serial number between 1008701 and 1273700, non-consecutively.

Corrective action is required for the model numbers listed above if the serial number of the COOLING UNIT on your refrigerator falls between 1008701 and 1273700. Your vehicle may or may not have a refrigerator affected by this recall. The cooling unit serial number is located on the solution chamber, which can be viewed through the refrigerator vent door on the outside of your vehicle. **The serial number on the cooling unit differs from the serial number of your refrigerator.** If your refrigerator is one of the models listed above, with a cooling unit serial number in the defined range, it has one of the suspect cooling units and requires **retrofitting with a thermal switch kit.** **Extended operation of a leaking cooling unit could cause a fire, resulting in personal injury (including death) and/or property damage. Call 800 767-9101 to report your refrigerator and get assistance to execute repair through a Norcold authorized service center or other approved dealer. Parts and labor for the repair will be at no charge.**

If you have one of the recalled cooling units:

1. **YOU should set the controls to "OFF," and unplug the refrigerator through the service vent on the outside of the vehicle.**
2. **YOU should immediately have a service center check to determine if there is a cooling unit leak.**
3. **If a cooling unit leak is detected by the authorized service center, you will be instructed to not operate the refrigerator in any mode until the cooling unit can be replaced.**
4. **If the cooling unit is not leaking, you will be instructed to not operate the refrigerator in any mode until it can be retrofitted with a Thermal Switch Kit.**

If you do not have one of the recalled cooling units:

1. **Please complete the enclosed postage paid reply card indicating your vehicle does not have a cooling unit affected by the recall and return it to us.**

You should contact Damon at 1-800-860-3812, your dealer, or an authorized Norcold service center as soon as possible to arrange a service date. To locate the service center nearest you, **call Norcold's Recall Center at 800 767-9101 or visit Norcold's website at <http://www.norcold.com>** and click on the Customer Support link followed by the Service Centers link. You can also check online to see if your cooling unit is under recall by clicking on the Customer Support link at the top of the page, followed by the Recall Info link. From there you can click on the 'Check Status' button to see if a cooling unit serial number is under recall.

If your dealer or an authorized Norcold service center fails or is unable to remedy this defect without charge and within a reasonable time, please contact Norcold at 800 767-9101. You may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590, or call 888 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov> if remedy difficulties exist.

In the event you no longer own the vehicle, please help us locate the new owner by completing the enclosed postage paid reply card and returning it to us.

We regret any inconvenience related to this recall campaign. Our first priority is the safety of our products and the satisfaction of our customers. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Janae' Kurtz
VP of Customer Service and Parts