



Forest River, Inc.

55470 County Road 1, P.O. Box 3030, Elkhart, Indiana 46515-3030 • 574-389-4600 • Fax 574-296-7558

June 26, 2008

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



**08V-346
(6 pages)**

RE: Defect Information Report; Vehicles Equipped with Certain Refrigerators
Manufactured by Dometic Corporation.

Dear Mr. Smith,

Dometic Corporation has advised Forest River, Inc. that certain Dometic refrigerators installed as original equipment in some of Forest River's recreational vehicles may contain a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety because they may experience a leak of pressurized coolant solution, which can result in a vehicle fire under certain circumstances. On the basis of that Dometic determination Forest River 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.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

William G. Conway Jr.
Forest River, Inc.
574-534-6913
Fax: 574-534-5011
Email: bconway@forestriverinc.com

RECEIVED

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.



Forest River, Inc.

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Defect Information Report

1. The Manufacturer of the Vehicles covered by this report is:
Forest River, Inc.
55470 County Road 1, P.O. Box 3030
Elkhart, IN 46515-3030

2. Vehicles Involved:

The vehicles covered by this Report are recreational vehicles that were equipped with certain models of refrigerators manufactured by Dometic Corporation between June 1, 2003 and September 30, 2006. The Models in question are as follows: All American Sport, Cardinal, Cedar Creek, Cherokee, Auto Master, Auto Plus, Eliminator, Qualifier, Georgetown, Tsunami, Sunseeker, Forester, Lexington, Lexington GT, MB Cruiser, Sierra, Sandpiper, Wildwood, Salem, Rockwood, Flagstaff, Wildcat, Surveyor, Grand Surveyor, Work and Play trailers.

The vehicles were manufactured during a period from June 1, 2003 through November 30 of 2006.

3. Total Number of Vehicles:

The total number of vehicles covered by this report is yet to be determined. We are compiling it from over 30 divisions.

4. Approximate percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect:

We are unable to determine the number of units at this time. However, based on information received from Dometic, Forest River believes that approximately .005 percent of these vehicles actually contain the defect.

5. Description of the defect:

Under certain circumstances, a fatigue crack can develop in the boiler tube of the covered refrigerator, which can permit the release of pressurized coolant solution. If the solution is exposed to an ignition source under certain specified circumstances, it can result in a vehicle fire.

6. Chronological Summary of events leading to this determination:

Dometic advised Forest River of this expanded defect determination by letter. Forest River is not aware of any fires in its vehicles that appear to be related to this defect. Nevertheless, after reviewing this matter, Forest River has decided to submit this expanded defect report.

7. Program for remedying the defect:

Dometic has arranged to conduct a recall to remedy the potential defect in Forest River's vehicles at no charge to the vehicle owners. See recall No. 08E-032. Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6©(8)9i) and 573.13, owners will be advised that Dometic will reimburse them if they have incurred costs to obtain a remedy for a refrigerator containing such defect prior to their receipt of the notification. Forest River, Inc. recognizes that as a final stage vehicle manufacturer it remains responsibility for the successful completion of the recall campaign.

William G. Conway Jr.
Forest River, Inc.



Forest River, Inc.

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April 9, 2007

Dear

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

Dometic Corporation has notified Forest River, Inc. that the defect, which related to motor safety, that existed on some of the refrigerators that it manufactured between April 1997 and May 2003 for installation in recreational vehicles has been expanded to include refrigerators built from June 2003 to September 30, 2006.

The Problem:

A fatigue crack can develop in the boiler tube of the identified refrigerators, which can permit the release of pressurized coolant solution. If this solution is exposed to an ignition source under certain specific circumstances, it can result in a vehicle fire.

Affected Units:

The potentially affected refrigerators have the following model numbers:

NDR1062, RM2652, RM2662, RM2663, RM2852, RM2862, RM3662, RM3663, RM3862.

The possibly affected units have serial numbers beginning with the following combinations:

320xxxxx through 352xxxxx

501xxxxx through 552xxxxx

401xxxxx through 452xxxxx

601xxxxx through 639xxxxx

If you own one of the above units, it requires immediate service and continuing use could pose a potential safety hazard.

How Do I Know IF My Refrigerator Is Being Recalled?

- 1) Find your refrigerator's model and serial numbers by opening the refrigerator door and looking for the sticker attached to the side of the interior. See the photo instructions furnished by Dometic included in this mailing for the exact location of the sticker.
- 2) Call **1-888-446-5157** or go to **www.DometicUSA.com** to confirm if your refrigerator is affected by the recall.

What To Do:

- 1) **Turn the refrigerator off immediately if you notice any of the following indicators:**
 - Leakage or staining of the back of the refrigerator.
 - Yellow residue at the back or side of the refrigerator.
 - The smell of ammonia.
 - Refrigerator does not properly cool.

Any units found to have one or more of the characteristics mentioned above MUST be shut down and not operated until the unit is fixed and the recall is administrated.

For any units that do fall within the recall population, but does not exhibit any of the four indicators mentioned in #1, consider the following:

- 2) Do not operate your refrigerator on L.P. gas. Switching to electrical power lowers the incident rate associated with L.P. gas. If you own a 3-way refrigerator, running the unit on 12-volt power carries the least risk of all. 3-way refrigerators have model numbers that end in "3".

Dometic recommends that the unit not be operated on electric unless absolutely necessary until your unit has been serviced. **If you choose to operate your unit on electric prior to the recall rework, you must inspect the burner area weekly for any of the indicators referenced in number 1 above.**

- 3) Dometic recommends that you turn off the gas valve at the back of your refrigerator. **DO NOT**, however, attempt to disconnect the gas supply tube. Instructions on how to turn off the gas valve was provided by Dometic and is included in this envelope.
- 4) If you must operate your refrigerator on electric. **DO NOT** operate your refrigerator while in transit or while occupants are asleep.
- 5) The rework kit is now available. Please call your preferred service center to set up an appointment. For help in locating a service center, or for the most up-to-date recall information call 1-888-446-5157.

Please do not simply go to a dealer or service center without an appointment, since some facilities will not be performing this work, and the ones that are doing the

work will need to obtain the appropriate parts from Dometic. Please bring this letter with you at the time of your scheduled service.

- 6) If the repair facility fails or is unable to rework this noncompliance without charge and within a reasonable time, please contact Dometic at the number provided above so they can attempt to resolve the problem. You may also submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington D.C. 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

- 7) If you previously paid to repair or replace a Dometic refrigerator that failed due to this defect, you can be reimbursed for the cost pursuant to Dometic's Pre-Notification Reimbursement Program. To be eligible for reimbursement under the Program, you must complete and submit the required forms and provide the necessary documentation. The Program and form can be obtained from Dometic by calling 1-888-446-5157.

If you no longer own this refrigerator:

If you no longer are the owner of this unit that may have the affected refrigerator, Dometic would greatly appreciate you furnishing them with the name and address of the new owner by calling 1-888-446-5157.

You May Receive More Than One Mailing In Regards To This Recall:

To reach as many customers as possible, Forest River and the manufacturer of your refrigerator will each send notifications in regards to this recall. Be advised that though you may receive multiple notifications, all pertain to the same, single recall.

Forest River sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause. We are continually committed to working with component manufacturers as they develop innovative products to meet the needs of the RV'er. Keeping your safety is a top priority for us.