Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports[1]

08V-379
(7 pages)

On JULY 28 **, 2008,** Bison Mfg., LLC **[MFR] decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports.**

Date this report was prepared: JULY 29, 2008

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 06E-076

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

BISON MANUFACTURING LLC

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

KEITH GRIFFIN President, BISON MANUFACTURING LLC

Telephone Number: 574-658-4161 ext.107 **Fax No.:** 574-658-8558

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

KATHY MINNS

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Signed: KEITH GRIFFIN

President Bison Mfg., LLC

[1] Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210, by FAX at (202) 366-7882, or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov.

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. **Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall,** ***for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:***

DOMETIC RECALL 2003 RECALL # 06E-076

Make(s): BISON **Model Years Involved:** 2003 **Model(s):** STRATUS / ALUMASPORT

Production Dates: Beginning: 1-1-2003 **Ending:** 12-31-2003

VIN Range: Beginning: 43B3824242100485 **Ending:** 43B88242141006240

Vehicle Type: HORSE TRAILERS **Bodystyle:** STRATUS / ALUMASPORT

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:
HORSE TRAILERS CONSISTING OF 10' AND LARGER LIVING QUARTERS
HAVING DOMETIC REFRIGERATORS MODLE NUMBER RM2652

DOMETIC RECALL 2004 – 2005 – 2006 RECALL # 08E-032

Make(s): BISON **Model Years Involved:** 2004 -2005-2006 **Model(s):** STRATUS / ALUMASPORT T

Production Dates: Beginning: 1-2004 Ending: 12-2006

VIN Range: Beginning: 43B88262041006257 **Ending:** 43B08262271008660

Vehicle Type: HORSE TRAILERS **Bodystyle:** STRATUS / ALUMASPORT

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:
HORSE TRAILERS CONSISTING OF 10' AND LARGER LIVING QUARTERS
HAVING DOMETIC REFRIGERATORS MODLE NUMBER RM2652

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Vehicles equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Vehicles of all Vehicles manufactured during that time period.

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model STRATUS AND ALUMASPORTS Year 2003	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved

Dometic Recall 2003 06E-076

2003 NINTY FOUR(94) = 94 POTENTIALLY AFFECTED HORSE TRAILERS

Dometic Recall 2004 -2005 -2006 08E-032

2004 Two Hundred Eighty Three (283) =283 Potentially Affected Horse Trailers

2005 Three hundred sixty nine (369) =369 Potentially Affected Horse Trailers

2006 Five hundred twenty (520) =520 Potentially Affected Horse Trailers

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 1,266

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

The recall population was determined from the Access Tread Reporting System. The Physical files were examined for complete VIN numbers and Customer name/addresses. Bison Mfg., LLC did not build living quarters in 2002. The list that Dometic provided Bison for the Dometic recalled refrigerator list sold to Bison in 2002 totaled 94.

The recall population was determined from the units with a 10" and over living quarters.

These models were the only units with the Dometic 2 door refrigerators, 6 cubic foot.

The year dates of the horse trailer are designated by model year which does not change the totals.

DOMETIC MODEL NUMBER RM2652

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.
The nature of this defect to the refrigerator is related to the burner area of the cooling unit. The Defect would be at the physical location of the exterior access door to the refrigerator unit.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.
After some period of use, a fatigue crack may develop in the boiler tube of the covered refrigerators That may release a sufficient amout of pressurized coolant solution into an area where an ignition source may be present. Information supplied by Dometic Refrigerator Recall supplied June 2008.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.
Under certain conditions, the coolant could ignite and result in a fire. Information supplied By Dealer Notification Dometic Refrigerator Recall supplied June 2008

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.
Bison is unaware of all events leading up to this recall other than the report given from Dometic recommending that these refrigerators are to be recalled.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.
Dometic Corporation
509 South Poplar Street
LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone - 260-463-2191 fax:260-463-4179

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:
Patrick N. McConnell, Director Engineering, Product Safety and Standards

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

This recall information was supplied to Bison Mfg. LLC from Dometic Corp. in their report .

Based on this information Bison responds with owner information.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

Dometic reported on the Dealer Notification 1840-0201AD. Dometic has developed a rework for this potential defect, which involves the installation of a secondary burner housing and certain fuses that will prevent this condition from leading to a fire outside the burner area.

9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Dometic is providing rework kits for this recall.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Dometic is proving rework kits for this recall.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

Dometic corrected the problem prior to the purchase of refrigerators.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Stericycle is conducting the letter notifications. Notifications will be mailed in 2 – 3 weeks.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

11. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. ***A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov for review prior to mailing.***

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.