



Gulf Stream Coach Incorporated
503 South Oakland Avenue
Nappanee, Indiana 46550

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Kenneth N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

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08V-416
(2 pages)

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. submits the following information concerning a safety defect on 2008, & 2009 Model Year Gulf Stream Coach, Inc recreational vehicles. These completed vehicles were built on Freightliner chassis equipped with the Bendix SR-7 Spring Brake Control Valve Assembly Check Valves. Reference Freightliner recall 07V-302.

573.6 (c) (2) – Potentially Affected Vehicles

Certain model year 2008, & 2009 Gulf Stream Coach, Inc recreational vehicles built from September 2007 through April 2008 are potentially affected;

Model Family: Tour Master
Model Number: T45G

573.6 (c) (3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

Five (5) vehicles have been identified as potentially having one of the defective check valves installed as original equipment.

573.6 (c) (4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Condition

At this point Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. assumes that all four of the vehicles are affected. By this reasoning, 100% of the vehicles are affected.

573.6 (c) (5) – Description of the Noncompliance

The defect involves the Bendix SR-7 spring brake modulating valves. These valves may have one or both of the following defects. The internal rubber check valves may deform over time and potentially result in intermittent improper seating of the check valves. The valve body retainer of Parker Hannifin 90 degree single check valves that attach to the supply port of SR-7 valves may, after prolonged use, break apart and become lodged inside the valve, causing a leak out of the valve or preventing air from properly exhausting from the SR-7 valve. Either of these two defects may cause a delay in the application of the parking brake and the vehicle may roll away, resulting in possible property damage or personal injury. Normal service braking is not affected by either condition.

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
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573.6 (c) (7) – Basis for Non-Compliance

Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. was informed of the non-compliance through a letter from Freightliner. We were also supplied an electronic database of the affected chassis.

573.6 (c) (8) – Service Program

We will be forwarded the database containing the vehicle and owner contact information to Freightliner. We accept Freightliner's offer to conduct the recall and file the quarterly reports on our behalf.

573.6 (c) (9) – Owner and Dealer Letters

Freightliner will be sending the letters to dealers and owners and conducting the recall.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Satoski
Compliance Engineer
Gulf Stream Coach, Inc.
(574) 289-8787 x3312