



Gulf Stream Coach Incorporated
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Nappanee, Indiana 46550

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

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08V-418
(1 page)

PART 573 - DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1 Manufacturer's name & address:

Gulf Stream Coach, Inc.
P.O. Box 1005
Nappanee, IN 46550

2. Vehicles Involved:

The vehicles covered by this Report are Gulf Stream Coach, Inc motor homes built on Freightliner chassis that were equipped with ZF Lenksysteme 8018 Steering Gears. Model years of the affected vehicles include 2005, 2008, & 2009. Reference Freightliner recall number 07V343.

The vehicles were manufactured during the period from 29 APR 04 through 6 JUN 08.

3. Total number of vehicles:

The total number of vehicles covered by this report is 30 (28 non-Canadian & 2 Canadian). Only 14 of the 30 chassis have been built into completed vehicles. The models affected are 8408 Scenic Cruiser, 8411 Scenic Cruiser, 8411 Friendship, & T45G Tourmaster.

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

Unknown

5. Description of the defect:

Certain ZF Lenksysteme model 8018 steering gears may have been assembled with the incorrect recirculating ball spacer; this may allow the recirculating balls to escape their circuit. If this happens, the operator may notice that higher steering wheel inputs are required or the need for more steering wheel adjustments while driving in a straight line in combination with metallic cracking noises prior to a loss of steering. A loss of steering may result in a possible vehicle crash.

6. Chronological summary of events leading to this determination:

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.

7. Program for remedying the defect:

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

Jeffrey C. Satoski
Compliance Engineer
Gulf Stream Coach, Inc.

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.