



NEWMAR QUALITY! A WAY OF LIFE.

Date: Thursday, August 28, 2008

Re: Defect and Noncompliance Information Report

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Mr. Dan Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.  
Washington, DC 20590

**08V-443  
(5 pages)**

Dear Mr. Smith:

Please find enclosed a compulsory 'defect and noncompliance information report' pursuant to 49 CFR, Part 573.6. Newmar Corporation is submitting this report in response to the determination of an equipment defect that may be related to motor vehicle safety.

We are continuing the preparation of documents, which will be sent via electronic mail or certified mail, for your approval. Newmar Corporation will issue a Technical Service Bulletin to our dealers. Newmar Corporation will be conducting this recall in its entirety.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan A. Lehman  
Codes and Compliance Manager  
Newmar Corporation  
[rlhman@newmarcorp.com](mailto:rlhman@newmarcorp.com)

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

**49 CFR Part 573.6**  
**Defect and Noncompliance Information Report**

On **August 25, 2008**, Newmar Corporation, a recreational vehicle manufacturer, identified an equipment defect that may be related to motor vehicle safety. This defect exists in the vehicles listed below. Newmar Corporation is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.6, **Defect and Noncompliance Information Report**.

This report was prepared on **Thursday, August 28, 2008**.

Newmar Corporation's campaign identification number will be assigned by NHTSA.

**1. The "Final Stage" vehicle manufacturer.**

Newmar Corporation  
355 N. Delaware St.  
Nappanee, IN 46550

All inquiries should be directed to:

Carol Walker  
Warranty Recovery Manager  
Consumer Affairs  
Newmar Corporation  
355 N Delaware St.  
Nappanee, IN 46550-0030  
Phone: (574) 773-7791  
Fax: (574) 773-2007

This report was prepared by:

  
Ryan A. Lehman  
Codes and Compliance Manager  
Newmar Corporation  
355 N Delaware St  
Nappanee, IN 46550-0030  
Phone: (574) 773-7791  
Fax: (574) 773-5153

**2. Identify the vehicle involved in the recall.**

The recreational vehicle model involved in this recall is:

2008-2009 Ventana DP Motorhome

These vehicles were manufactured by Newmar Corporation between June 2007 and August 2008.

**3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or non-compliance.**

The total number of vehicles covered by this report is 148.

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

100 percent of the vehicles catalogued above may contain the defect.

**5. Describe the defect or non-compliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or non-compliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.**

After some period of use and due to the unshielded proximity of the primary engine exhaust system, thermal breakdown of the polyethylene moisture barrier may occur and may result in auto-ignition and combustion.

**5a. Describe the cause of the defect or noncompliance.**

An inadvertent omission of required shielding of components above the engine compartment, from the primary engine exhaust system, resulted in the defect.

**5b. Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.**

The location of the polyethylene moisture barrier (on the underside of the main floor above the engine compartment), in relation to the unshielded primary engine exhaust system, may present a latent fire hazard.

**5c. Describe any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.**

Auto-ignition and combustion may occur without warning.

**5d. If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address:**

N/A

**6. If defect, furnish a chronological summary with dates of all the principal events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. Include number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.**

On August 18, 2008; Newmar Corporation received correspondence, from a field representative, alleging that a potential fire hazard existed in a specific recreational vehicle. This allegation was based upon the observation of limited thermal deformation of the polyethylene barrier. On August 25, 2008; Newmar determined that this was not an isolated manufacturing deviation.

Outside of this initial claim; Newmar Corporation is not aware of any property damage, in vehicles manufactured by Newmar, attributed directly or indirectly to this issue. Newmar Corporation is not aware of any injury or death, in vehicles manufactured by Newmar, attributed directly or indirectly to this issue.

**7. If noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data in chronological order with dates on which the noncompliance was determined.**

Immediately following the August 18, 2008 correspondence, internal reviews of engineering design and manufacturing processes were conducted. The determination was made that specific heat shielding requirements, specified by Newmar procedures, were not being met.

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

Newmar Corporation will supply remedy instructions, in the form of a Technical Service Bulletin, upon completion.

**8a. Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/ assembly versus the recalled component/ assembly.**

This recall strictly involves the addition of a previously omitted component.

**8b. 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, state so.**

The addition of the omitted heat shield, part number 112234, was designated for use in production beginning August 27, 2008 and specified by an Engineering Change Order. This heat shield identified for production is identical to the heat shield that will be specified in the Technical Service Bulletin.

**8c. Furnish a recall schedule or agenda, with specific dates, for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retails, and purchasers. Please identify any foreseeable problems with implementing this recall.**

Newmar Corporation will begin notification of dealers and retail purchasers upon approval, by NHTSA, of the furnished documents.

**9. 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 concerning this recall.**

We are continuing preparation of required documents which will be sent via electronic mail or certified mail.

**9a. The manufacturer's campaign identification number, if not identical to the number assigned by NHTSA.**

Newmar Corporation's campaign identification number will be assigned by NHTSA.

\*All documents to be faxed to (202) 366-7882 followed by submission via certified mail.