



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 12, 2009

MR. RYAN A. LEHMAN
CODES AND COMPLIANCE MANAGER
NEWMAR CORPORATION
355 N DELAWARE STREET
NAPPANEE, IN 46550-0030

NVS-215kjs
09V-324

SUBJECT: REFRIGERATOR FIRE

DEAR MR. LEHMAN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Newmar Corporation's (Newmar) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal law.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

Mfg's Report Date: August 7, 2009

NEWMAR/DUTCH STAR/2003-2004
NEWMAR/ESSEX/2003
NEWMAR/KOUNTRY AIRE/2003
NEWMAR/KOUNTRY STAR/2003
NEWMAR/MOUNTAIN AIRE/2003
NEWMAR/SCOTTSDALE/2003

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-324

Components: EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 493

Summary:

NEWMAR IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2003 AND 2004 MOTOR HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLE TRAILERS MANUFACTURED BETWEEN MARCH 5, 2002 AND APRIL 3, 2003, EQUIPPED WITH CERTAIN NORCOLD REFRIGERATORS. THE COOLANT SOLUTION IN THESE COOLING UNITS CAN ESCAPE.

Consequence:

IF A LEAK OCCURS AND THE UNIT CONTINUES TO OPERATE, HYDROGEN GAS MAY BE EXPELLED AND CAN BE IGNITED, RESULTING IN A FIRE, POSSIBLY CAUSING SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

Remedy:

NEWMAR IS WORKING WITH NORCOLD TO NOTIFY OWNERS AND THE VEHICLES WILL BE REPAIRED FREE OF CHARGE. THE REMEDY CAMPAIGN WILL BE CONDUCTED BY NORCOLD. THE SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING AUGUST 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT NORCOLD SERVICE CENTER AT 1-800-767-9101 OR NEWMAR AT 1-574-773-7791.

Notes:

OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Person".

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement