



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

November 3, 2009

MR. DAVID M. MIHALICK
STANDARDS COMPLIANCE MANGER
THOR INDUSTRIES
419 WEST PIKE STREET
PO BOX 629
JACKSON CENTER, OH 45334-0629

NVS-215dgl
09V-430

SUBJECT: AXLE REPLACEMENT

DEAR MR. MIHALICK:

This letter serves to acknowledge Dutchmen Manufacturing's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

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:

DUTCHMEN/DENALI/2009
DUTCHMEN/NORTHSHORE/2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-430

Mfg's Report Date: October 26, 2009

Components: POWER TRAIN AXLE: ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 24

Summary:

DUTCHMEN IS RECALLING CERTAIN TRAVEL TRAILERS WHICH WERE MANUFACTURED WITH INCORRECT AXLES. THESE VEHICLES WERE BUILT WITH AXLES RATED AT 4,400 LBS. THE VEHICLES SHOULD HAVE BEEN BUILT WITH AXLES RATED AT 5,080 LBS.

Consequence:

TOWING A VEHICLE WITH THE AXLE LOADED BEYOND THE SPECIFIED WEIGHT RATING MAY RESULT IN AXLE FAILURE LEADING TO POOR VEHICLE HANDLING AND INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE AXLES ON EACH VEHICLE WITH ONE'S RATED AT 5,080 LBS FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING NOVEMBER 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DUTCHMEN WARRANTY SERVICE DEPARTMENT AT 866-869-1109.

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.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577, however we would like to add a risk i.e., "Towing a vehicle with the axle loaded beyond the specified weight rating may result in axle failure leading to poor vehicle handling and increasing the risk of a crash."

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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