

Form Approved: O.M.B. No. 2127-0004

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On JAN. 21st, ~~2008~~ 2009, Tiffin Motorhome, Inc [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. _____) exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared JAN. 21, 2009

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): Arvin Meritor's # OBE-038

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Tiffin Motorhomes, Inc.
105 2nd St. NW
Red Bay AL 35582


Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Bob Tiffin, President

Telephone Number: 256-356-8661 Fax No.: 256-356-6863

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Liz Jones
Office Secretary

Signed: 

¹Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Tiffin Model Years Involved 2009 Model(s): Allegro

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): _____ Model Years Involved _____ Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): _____ Model Years Involved _____ Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
2009 Allegro Bus	2009	23

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 23

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined—in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

Arvin Meritor notified Tiffin.
They stated the population of potential buses was determined by manufacturing records maintained by Arvin Meritor's Carrollton facility.
B+DTread Rolling supplied to the studs to Arvin Meritor.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

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

B-D Thread rolling determined wheel studs with the head marking "NC-11" are affected. Arvin Meritor assembled these wheel end studs into hubs, which were shipped to Arvin Meritor inter-plants for assembly to axles. Tiffin purchased from Arvin Meritor.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

The suspect wheel end studs were improperly tempered, potentially rendering them brittle & susceptible to fracture.

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

If one wheel stud fractures, the remaining wheel studs are required to carry more load. If left in this loading condition, the remaining wheel studs may also fracture even if they are properly manufactured.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

The time between initial bolt fracture & subsequent bolt fracture will be dependent on loading & duty cycle & is unpredictable.

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

Arvin Meritor
2135 W. Maple Rd.
Troy MI 48064

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Niran Audimoolum

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

Arvin Meritor is in charge of this

V. Identify the Remedy

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.

Arvin Meritor is in charge of this

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

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, so state.

Arvin Meritor came to Tiffin Motorhomes and repaired 21 of the 23 units involved. Therefore, 21 units ~~are~~ never left the factory. The other 2 units are being tracked & notified.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

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 (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579, As Amended: This information is requested pursuant to the authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response maybe used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.