

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹

On May 5, 2009, Norcold Inc. [MFR] decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety 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 Responsibility and Reports**.

Date this report was prepared: July 15, 2009

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 09E-027

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.

Showtime Conversions, Inc., PO Box 810, Middlebury, IN 46540

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

Stanley Delagrang, President

Telephone Number: 574-825-1130 Fax No.: 574-825-1074

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Esther Stutzman, Office Manager

Signed:

Stanley Delagrang
President

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

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): Showtime Conversions **Model Years Involved:** 2001 **Model(s):** ShowHauler

Production Dates: Beginning: 11/26/01 **Ending:** 11/26/01

VIN Range: Beginning: 1FVAA6AV82LJ85189 **Ending:** 1FVAA6AV82LJ85189

Vehicle Type Freightliner **Bodystyle:** 26' Motor Home

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

Unit contained a Norcold Model 1200LRIM Refrigerator.

Make(s): Showtime Conversions **Model Years Involved:** 2002 **Model(s):** ShowHauler

Production Dates: Beginning: 01/02/02 **Ending:** 01/02/02

VIN Range: Beginning: 1FVHA6AV62LJ85190 **Ending:** 1FVHA6AV62LJ85190

Vehicle Type: Freightliner **Bodystyle:** 30' Motor Home

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

Unit contained a Norcold Model 1200LRIM Refrigerator.

Make(s): Showtime Conversions **Model Years Involved:** 2002 **Model(s):** ShowHauler

Production Dates: Beginning: 1/14/02 **Ending:** 1/14/02

VIN Range: Beginning: 1M1AE07Y51W010619 **Ending:** 1M1AE07Y51W010619

Vehicle Type: Mack **Bodystyle:** 32' Motor Home

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

Unit contained a Norcold Model 1200LRIM Refrigerator.

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 Vehicles equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Vehicles of all Vehicles 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
26' ShowHauler Motor Home	2001	1
30' ShowHauler Motor Home	2002	1
32' ShowHauler Motor Home	2002	1

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 3

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

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:

Norcold provided the serial numbers of the three (3) affected refrigerators sold to Showtime. Those serial numbers were correlated to date range that the vehicles were manufactured as described in Section I, Item #2.

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.

The nature of the defect is a fatigue failure in the section of the cooling unit which contains the refrigerant.

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

This fatigue failure could allow the liquid solution to slowly leak from the cooling unit. If a leak occurs and the refrigerator continues to be operated after solution circulation has ceased the heat source could generate very high temperatures.

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

At such high temperature the steel material of the cooling unit could soften and rupture. If refrigerant gas is still in place when the rupture occurs hydrogen gas may be expelled and could be ignited by the high temperature, possibly causing a fire.

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

none

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

Norcold Inc.

600 S. Kuther Rd.

Sidney, OH 45365

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

George Strasburg, Manager of Corporate Product Reliability

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.

Reference: Norcold recall 09E-027.

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.

Reference: Norcold recall 09E-027.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

With owner contact information supplied by Showtime, Norcold will excute a mailing notification to identified and or suspected owners. The remedy, installing a thermal switch kit on the recalled refrigerator—costs to be billed from the repairing directly to Norcold. No cost to the owner.

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

Norcold is installing a thermal switch in the recalled units which prevents the cooling unit from reaching a temperature that could bring about the potential escape of refrigerant gas. Abnormally high cooling unit temperatures that precede those causing the failure mode reported in Campaign 09E-027 can be detected well before they reach a potentially dangerous level by means of a thermal switch aimed directly at the generator area of the cooling unit. When the thermal switch detects a generator operating at an unacceptably high temperature the normally closed contacts of the thermal switch open and disable all power sources for the refrigerator thereby preventing the generator from reaching the much higher temperature that is potentially dangerous.

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

The recalled refrigerators are identified by their cooling unit serial number, which is very visibly located on the solution chamber of the cooling unit.

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.

Ref: Norcold recall 09E-027. Vehicles manufactured after December 2002, the end date for Norcold's extended recall, were equipped with corrected Norcold refrigerators or refrigerators supplied by a different manufacturer.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. 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.

Showtime will submit suggested language for owner and dealer notification to NHTSA.

After receipt of NHTSA approval, letterhead stationary and envelopes, along with owner's contact information and dealer's contact information will be sent to Norcold for mailing, within 30 days.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

11. 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) or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov for review prior to mailing.

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.