



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

June 17, 2010

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

NVS-215dgl  
10V-268

**SUBJECT: HEAT SHIELD EXHAUST**

**DEAR MR. MIHALICK:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Four Winds Corporation'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:**

FOUR WINDS/FREEDOM ELITE/2009-2011

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 10V-268

**Mfg's Report Date:** June 11, 2010

**Components:** ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING: EXHAUST SYSTEM

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 415

**Summary:**

FOUR WINDS IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2009-2011 FREEDOM ELITE MODEL 21C MOTOR HOMES MANUFACTURED FROM FEBRUARY 2009 THROUGH MAY 2010. THESE MOTOR HOMES DO NOT HAVE THE REQUIRED HEAT SHIELD OVER THE EXHAUST AS SPECIFIED BY THE CHASSIS MANUFACTURER. WITHOUT THE HEAT SHIELD IN PLACE HEAT IS NOT PROPERLY DISSIPATED AROUND THE EXHAUST OF THE VEHICLE.

**Consequence:**

THIS POTENTIALLY COULD RESULT IN A FIRE.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL INSTALL A HEAT SHIELD BETWEEN THE EXHAUST AND THE RESIDENTIAL PART OF THE MOTOR HOME TO DISSIPATE ANY HEAT ACCUMULATION. THIS SERVICE WILL BE PERFORMED FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JUNE 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FOUR WINDS AT 1-800-860-5658.

**Notes:**

CUSTOMERS 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.

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).

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 the close of the calendar quarter.

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](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto: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