



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

September 17, 2010

MR. GARETT CAROLUS  
TECHNICAL MANAGER  
KEYSTONE RV COMPANY  
17400 HACKBERRY DRIVE  
GOSHEN, IN 46526

NVS-215kjs  
10V-413

SUBJECT: WHEEL SEPARATION

DEAR MR. CAROLUS:

This letter serves to acknowledge Keystone RV Company's (Keystone) 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:**

KEYSTONE/ALPINE/2011  
KEYSTONE/AVALANCHE/2011  
KEYSTONE/FUZION/2011  
KEYSTONE/LAREDO/2011  
KEYSTONE/MONTANA/2011  
KEYSTONE/MOUNTAINEER/2011

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 10V-413      **Mfg's Report Date:** September 14, 2010

**Components:** POWER TRAIN:AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 322

**Summary:**

KEYSTONE IS RECALLING CERTAIN 2011 ALPINE, AVALANCHE, FUZION, LAREDO, MONTANA, AND MOUNTAINEER FIFTH WHEEL TRAILERS MANUFACTURED FROM AUGUST 19, 2010, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1, 2010, EQUIPPED WITH DEXTER AXLES. ON SOME AXLES, CRACKS COULD APPEAR IN THE SPINDLE WELD.

**Consequence:**

THESE CRACKS CAN PROPAGATE AND CAUSE THE SPINDLE TO DETACH FROM THE AXLE TUBE, RESULTING IN THE SEPARATION OF THE WHEEL END FROM THE VEHICLE, CREATING A ROAD HAZARD THAT INCREASES THE RISK OF A CRASH TO OTHER VEHICLES, AND COMPROMISES THE DRIVER'S CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE INCREASING THE RISK OF A VEHICLE CRASH.

**Remedy:**

KEYSTONE WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE AXLE SERIAL NUMBER AND REPLACE IT IF IT FALLS WITHIN THE SERIAL NUMBER RANGE. REPLACEMENT OF THE AXLE WILL BE PERFORMED FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 23, 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT KEYSTONE CUSTOMER SERVICE AT 1-866-425-4369.

**Notes:**

KEYSTONE RV'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS 10-147. CUSTOMERS MAY 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. 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 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports 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](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign. Sincerely,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Jennifer Timian  
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement