



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 25, 2010

MR. DAVID HOLLAND
DIRECTOR OF PARTS
WARRANTY AND SERVICE
OPEN RANGE R.V. COMPANY
3195 N S.R. 5
SHIPSHEWANA, IN 46565

NVS-215kjs
10V-503

SUBJECT: AXLE ASSEMBLY/WHEEL END SEPARATION

DEAR MR. HOLLAND:

This letter serves to acknowledge Open Range R.V. Company'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:

OPEN RANGE/FIFTH WHEEL/2011

OPEN RANGE/TOY HAULER/2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 10V-503

Mfg's Report Date: October 12, 2010

Components: POWER TRAIN:AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 56

Summary:

OPEN RANGE IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2011 FIFTH WHEEL TRAVEL TRAILERS AND TOY HAULERS MANUFACTURED FROM AUGUST 17, 2010, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 9, 2010, AND 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:

OPEN RANGE IS WORKING WITH DEXTER AXLE AND 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 DURING OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT OPEN RANGE AT 1-260-768-7771 AND DEXTER AXLE AT 1-800-2164.

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.

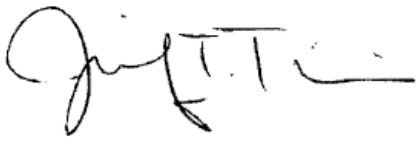
Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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 your report, Dexter Axle will be handling the remedy, and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.6 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Dexter Axle's campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

Your contacts for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, or by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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