

**Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Information Report**

May 4, 2010

Format per Federal Regulation 49 CFR Part 573.5

On April 27, 2010 Newell Coach determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exits 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;

1. Newell Coach Corporation, John Clark, VP Customer Service, PO Box 511, Miami OK 74355, 918 542 5582 ext 270

2. Newell Motor Homes- Certain motor homes manufactured between 3/12/2009 and 3/29/2010 (coach VIN numbers ending in 1400 -1417)

3. 18 coaches

4. 17 %

5. Defect: On certain motor homes the entry door may suddenly open without being activated by an exterior or interior control. Consequences: During travel, the entry door may open causing driver distraction and/or allowing someone who is not seated or wearing seat belts to fall out of the coach causing injury or death. Remedy: Remove power to the door actuator through an electrical interlock when the park-brake is released.

6. Chronology: Two Newell motor homes (VIN numbers ending in 1409 and 1411) were en route to RV shows, when the electrical control mechanism on the air powered entry door activated, causing the door to open while the vehicle was underway. Newell Coach Corporation installed and tested a park-brake controlled power disconnect system. Newell Coach started a product improvement campaign on April 13, 2010. On April 23, 2010, the owner of coach 1405 reported his entry door came open while traveling at high speed. The occupants were seated and using their seat belts and no injuries were reported. A screw was found to have penetrated the entry door wiring harness, and Newell Coach has since moved the entry door harness to an area safe from possible errant screw penetration, starting with coach 1418, along with installing the safety interlock feature on all new production coaches.

7. N/A

8. Newell Coach is inspecting the wiring harness and adding an interlock relay that disconnects all electrical power to the entry door when the park-brake is released. In the

event of an entry door harness short, the entry door will remain closed until the coach is stopped, and the park-brake is applied

9. Attached is our proposed Newell Coach Customer notification letter. Customer notification letters will be sent upon NHTSA review and approval. Copies of all notices, bulletins, and other communications will be submitted to you no later than 5 days after being sent.



John Clark  
VP/Customer Service