

**THOR
INDUSTRIES, INC.**

419 West Pike Street, PO Box 629, Jackson Center, OH 45334-0629

June 11, 2010

**VIA E-MAIL
RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED**10V-268
2 Pages)

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Four Winds International
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain motorhomes manufactured by Four Winds were built with a defect that has been determined to be safety related.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The motorhomes built with the safety defect are as follows:

<u>Model Name</u>	<u>Model Years Affected</u>
Freedom Elite model 21C	2009-2011

These motorhomes were built between February 2009 and May 2010. The total number of motorhomes subject to this recall campaign is 415.

- B. Description of Defect. All of the motorhomes subject to this recall campaign 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. This potentially could result in a fire. In the event of a fire, there is a potential for property damage, personal injury or death. To date, only minor property damage has been reported (with no property damage claims). There have been no reports of injuries or fatalities.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Four Winds was notified by a dealer of a customer incident that resulted in a thermal event. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the required heat shield was not in place.

- D. Remedying of Defect. The Recall campaign to be implemented by Four Winds to remedy the safety defect will include notification to all registered owners of the subject motorhomes, including but not limited to all dealers with such motorhomes in their inventory. A heat shield will be installed between the exhaust and the residential part of the motor home to dissipate any heat accumulation. As will be set forth in the registered owner notification letter, this defect will be corrected by Four Winds at no expense to the owner.
- E. Owner Notifications. Four Winds will notify owners of the motorhomes of the safety defect. A copy of the Owner's notification letter will be sent shortly for approval.
- F. Dealer Notifications. Four Winds will notify all Four Winds dealers of the safety defect. A copy of the Dealer's notification letter will be sent shortly for approval.
- G. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Four Winds will be filing quarterly reports as required by Part 573.7 of Title 49 the Code of Federal Regulations.
- H. Campaign Number. As this time, Four Winds does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Four Winds will use the identification number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Four Winds with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Four Winds in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363 or contact Four Winds directly at 877-855-2867.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries
Standards Compliance Manager