

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

October 11, 2010

VIA E-MAIL
RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED

10V-494
(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: Dutchmen Manufacturing Inc.
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Dutchmen has been notified by Atwood concerning a safety defect involving 35 series LP gas range oven combination appliances built between July 1, 2010 and September 20, 2010 inclusive. Atwood has already initiated a safety recall campaign with respect to this non-compliance. NHTSA has assigned recall number 10E-046 to the Atwood recall campaign.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain fifth wheel trailers manufactured by Dutchmen were built with Atwood range/ovens that contain the defect.

As more specifically set forth below, Atwood has agreed to conduct the recall campaign involving these defective range ovens. Dutchmen will provide Atwood with a list of dealers and owners to assist Atwood in remedying the defect. Atwood will be filing the quarterly reports in connection with the recall campaign.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The recall population includes the following product brands manufactured by Dutchmen.

<u>Model</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
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Voltage	2011
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The total number of vehicles subject to this recall campaign is 26.
These vehicles were built between 8/13/2010 and 9/29/2010.

- B. Description of Defect. The vehicles subject to this recall campaign were manufactured with the defective range/oven. Atwood has identified certain range ovens that may be equipped with a defective gas line. On certain range ovens manufactured from July 1, 2010 through September 20, 2010 with model numbers beginning with RV1735, RV2135 or RA2135, a potential exists for a small fracture within the line delivering gas to the oven cavity burner. Such a fracture has a potential to leak and lead the consumer to encounter an unexpected build up of gas. This condition can lead to a fire or explosion, and poses an asphyxiation risk. As a

result of this potential, Atwood is conducting a safety recall campaign to inspect and, where necessary, correct this issue.

- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Dutchmen was notified by Atwood via letter on September 24, 2010. Subsequently, Atwood contacted the NHTSA and has now issued an equipment recall for the range oven.
- D. Remedying of Defect. As set forth in the notification issued by Atwood in connection with recall campaign 10E-046, Atwood will inspected the suspect range ovens and repair if found to be defective. The owners of the fifth wheel trailers subject to this recall campaign will be advised to contact Dutchmen or Atwood in order to make arrangements to have the remedy completed by Atwood. Atwood will implement the recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in recall campaign 10E-046. Atwood has agreed to remedy the defect without charge to the owners.
- E. Owner Notifications. Atwood on the behalf of Dutchmen will notify the owners of the recreational vehicles by letter pending NHTSA approval. A copy of the owner's letter is attached for approval.
- F. Dealer Notifications. Atwood on behalf of Dutchmen will notify the Dutchmen dealers of this recall. A copy of the dealer's notification is attached for approval.
- G. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Atwood will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with recall campaign 10E-046. Because the information included by Atwood in its quarterly reports will encompass the remedying of the Dutchmen travel trailers subject to this recall campaign, Dutchmen will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication.
- H. Campaign Number. Dutchmen does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Dutchmen will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Dutchmen with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Dutchmen in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact David Mihalick at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363. or Jerry McCarthy, Dutchmen at (574) 975-0546.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries
Standards Compliance Manager