

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹

On September 21, 2010, Open Range R.V. decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists 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 Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: 10/12/2010

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): _____

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Open Range R.V. Company

3195 N S.R. 5

Shipshewana, IN 46565

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

David Holland, Director of Parts, Warranty, and Service

Telephone Number: 260-768-7771x106 **Fax No.:** 260-768-4890

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Curtis Carlson, Warranty Manager

Signed:

¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Ms. Jennifer Timian at (202) 366-5210, by FAX at (202) 366-7882, or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Open Range R.V. **Model Years Involved:** 2011 **Model(s):** Open Range/Journeyer/Roamer

Production Dates: Beginning: 7/1/2010 **Ending:** 9/20/2010

VIN Range: Beginning: 5XMFE4026B5003502 **Ending:** 5XMTL3227B2004207

Vehicle Type: Towable R.V.'s **Bodystyle:** 5th Wheels/Travel Trailers

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

The units that are not under this recall do not contain the 35 Series Atwood ranges that fall under this recall.

Make(s): _____ **Model Years Involved:** _____ **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): _____ **Model Years Involved:** _____ **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Vehicles equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Vehicles of all Vehicles manufactured during that time period. 57%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
Open Range	2011	305
Journeyer	2011	299
Roamer	2011	88

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 692

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 57%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

We have chosen a range of about 692 vin #'s that in accordance with the dates we have been provided by Atwood Mobile Products recall on the 35 Series ranges have been narrowed down to this range of vin #'s.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

A small fracture has ben found within the line supplying gas to the oven box. Such a fracture has the potential to leak gas when the oven box is in operation.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Our current understanding is that the initial aluminum tube billet lacks integrity. The billet is drawn into tubes in which cracks have been identified.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Gas only flows through the supect tube when the oven thermostat valve is opened and the thermocouple signals that a pilot light is present in the oven box.

Once gas if flowing, it can leak through the wall of the fractured gas line leading to a potential build up of gas in the R.V. in the presence of a spark or other ignition source, this leak may lead to a fire. This condition may also pose a risk of asphyxiation.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

In the event of an actual fracture in the gas supply line:

The LP detector in the coach should sound

The consumer will potentially smell the LP gas

The consumer might hear gas escaping through the leak

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Atwood Mobile Products

1120 North Main Street

Elkhart, IN 46514

Ningbo Jinou Hardware Co., LTD

No. 69 Xiaogang Weiliu Road

Beilun Area

Nongbo City Zhejiang Province

China 315803

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Jan Orłowski-Atwood Mobile Products

Burgess Chang-Ningbo Jinou Hardware Co., LTD

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

Problem discovered at the Atwood Greenbrier manufacturing facility. Specifically, during a regular quality and leak check during the Atwood manufacturing process, a charged burner supply tube ignited and was determined to be fractured. 9/16/2010. Open Range R.V. was notified of this problem, by Atwood Mobile Products on 9/27/2010.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

In stock product, along with yard units were repaired by Atwood Mobile Products on Open Range R.V. premises. 9/27/2010

There have been no accidents, injuries, fatalities or warranty claims to date.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

AT SOURCE/IN PRODUCTION

Atwood Mobile Products came to our facility to repair the production stock and yard stock. There are still units that have shipped to dealers and possibly retail sold that have this problem. For each repaired unit, a record of

every tested Range/Oven Combo serial numbers is being logged and each good unit is marked with a green check mark.

IN THE FIELD:

Open Range R.V. is currently working with Atwood Mobile products to locate and have repaired all of the affected units. In most cases there is no easy access to the oven box gas supply line once the unit is installed. The test procedure is therefore as follows:

The burner assembly is removed from the gas supply line in the oven box.

The other end of the gas supply line is removed from the gas manifold.

A cap is placed on one end of the gas supply line and an integrated meter/pump is attached to the other end.

Use supplied pressure apparatus to apply pressure and monitor for leaks. Absent a drop in pressure, the unit is re-assembled and tested for leaks.

In the event of a pressure leak, the RV units are quarantined until a replacement range can be installed.

Dealer service technicians will be supplied with work instructions, a video and the appropriate tools to replicate the test on units in dealer lots and or retail sold units.

9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

To work closely with Atwood Mobile Products to contact all dealers/retail customer the possess an R.V. in the range of vin #'s that we have provided and address the problem.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Open Range R.V. will not received any further inventory from Atwood Mobile Products with this defect.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

The production remedy is identical to the AT SOURCE/IN PRODUCTION recall remedy.

The product has not been discontinued.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.