



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

August 4, 2011

**VIA E-MAIL
RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED**

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: Airstream
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Airstream has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the recreational 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.

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

<u>Model</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
Avenue	2011-2012

The total number of vehicles subject to this recall campaign is 66.
These vehicles were manufactured between May 10, 2010 and July 29, 2011.

- B. Description of Defect. The Driver's Seat and Passenger Seat swivel locking mechanism fails to retain the seats in a forward orientation. The bolts that hold the seat swivel locking mechanism in place are not long enough to provide adequate engagement with the locking nut that secures the mechanism in place. The bolt and nut can separate causing the locking mechanism to fail. If the locking mechanism fails, the seat has the ability to swivel freely in place. The seat movement compromises the driver's control of the vehicle increasing the risk of a vehicle crash. The seat movement can also place the occupant in a position that will not allow the vehicles' safety restraints to correctly operate to protect the occupant in the event of a crash. There have been no reports of injury associated with this defect.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. The defect was discovered as a result of a dealer notification. The dealer notified Airstream on July 25, 2011 of

the issue when they had a customer's vehicle come in for repair of the driver's seat swivel locking mechanism. Upon further investigation at the manufacturing facility, it was discovered that the bolts used to secure the locking mechanism in place were not of sufficient length. A review of the information stored on file for each vehicle led to the determination of the beginning and ending production range.

- D. Remedying of Defect. The remedy is to replace the attachment bolts of the seat swivel locking mechanism with bolts of sufficient length to insure proper engagement with the locking nut. This will be done at no charge to the vehicle owner.
- E. Owner Notifications. Airstream will begin notifying owners within three weeks pending NHTSA approval. An owner's letter is attached for approval.
- F. Dealer Notifications. Airstream will begin notifying dealers within three weeks pending NHTSA approval. A dealer's letter is attached for approval.
- G. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Airstream will be filing quarterly reports in connection with this recall campaign.
- H. Campaign Number. Airstream does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Airstream will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Airstream with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Airstream in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact David Mihalick at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363. or Terry Coleman, Airstream, at 937-538-1268.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries
Standards Compliance Manager