

**RECEIVED**

By Recall Management Division at 11:37 am, Nov 03, 2011

**Forest River, Inc.**

55470 County Road 1

P.O. Box 3030

Elkhart, Indiana 46515-3030

11V-531  
(3 Pages)

October 18, 2011

Dan Smith  
Associate Administrator  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Defect Information Notice FL-611, Cummins V-Band Clamp Recall**

Mr. Smith:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Forest River Inc. reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 66 Berkshire Motor Homes manufactured September 29, 2010 through February 23, 2011, and equipped with V-Band clamp T-bolts where the T-bolt may be susceptible to fracture or failure due to an error in the suppliers plating process

Attached is Forest River's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Jim Ely

# Forest River, Inc.

55470 County Road 1  
P.O. Box 3030  
Elkhart, Indiana 46515-3030

## Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

October 18, 2011

**(c)(2) Manufacturer:** Forest River, Inc.  
P.O. Box 3030  
Elkhart, Indiana 46515-3030  
(574) 389-4600

**Brands:** Berkshire

**(c)(2) Vehicles identification:**

**Models affected:**

Berkshire: 360FWS, 390BH, 390RB and 390QS

**Model Years:** 2011

**Manufacture Dates:** September 2010 to February 2011

**Basis for Determining Population:** Cummins supplied a list of affected engine serial numbers to Daimler Trucks North America LLC who then matched them to VIN numbers of chassis supplied to Forest River Diesel.

**Component Manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacture:**

Cummins Inc.  
500 Jackson Street  
Columbus, Indiana 47201  
1-812-377-5000

**(c)(3) Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected:** Approximately 66 Motor Homes in the United States

**(c)(4) Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Contain the Defect:** Unknown

**(c)(5) Description of the Defect:** Cummins has determined that due to an error in the component suppliers plating process, the T-bolt included on the V-Band clamp assembly may be susceptible to fracture or failure when subjected to stress or load and may cause the clamp to loosen and the inlet or outlet sections attached to the DOC/DPF housing to disconnect allowing hot exhaust gases to vent prior to the tailpipe, creating a risk of combustion or damage to adjacent materials. In cases where resilient mounting is employed, the DOC/DPF housing could disconnect completely from the exhaust system or vehicle in the unlikely event that both V-Band clamps were to fail or loosen. In either case, the vehicles check engine light will illuminate.

# Forest River, Inc.

55470 County Road 1

P.O. Box 3030

Elkhart, Indiana 46515-3030

**49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of Safety Risk:** If the inlet or outlet sections disconnect, hot gases can vent prior to exiting the tailpipe, creating the risk of combustion and a fire.

**(c)(6) Chronology of Principle Events:**

Cummins Inc. notified Daimler Trucks North America LLC on August 20, 2011, that they had filed a DIR with NHSTA on 8/8/11 that a defect related to motor vehicle safety may exist on certain V-Band clamps and T-bolts with Cummins ASB6.7, ASC8.3, ISL9, ISX11.9 and ISX15 engines. On August 11, 2011, Cummins supplied DTNA with a list of affected engine serial numbers and requested Customer owner data and TD serial numbers. On August 28, 2011, DTNA determined that this may constitute a safety-related defect with respect to the vehicle applications listed above. Forest River, Inc. received Recall Notice FL-611 from Daimler Trucks, North America LLC on October 17, 2011. Owner data on affected VIN numbers was supplied to DTNA on August 17, 2011, for use by Cummins Inc. in administering this campaign.

**(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data:** Not applicable

**(c)(8) Remedial program:**

V-Band Clamps on potentially affected vehicles will be replaced.  
Repairs will be performed by Cummins authorized service facilities

**Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date:** Cummins will notify owners of the recall beginning August 2011. Cummins will administer this recall campaign.

**(c)(9) Information for tire recalls:** Not Applicable

**(c)(10) Communications sent to dealers and owners:** Cummins will administer this recall campaign.

**Reference:** Attached copies of Cummins letter to dealers and owners

**(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number:** TBD (Reference Daimler Trucks North America LLC campaign number FL-611 and Cummins Inc. campaign number C1154)