



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 2, 2012

MR. DAVID M. MIHALICK  
STANDARDS COMPLIANCE MANAGER  
DUTCHMEN MANUFACTURING, INC.  
419 W. PIKE ST.  
JACKSON CENTER, OH 45334

NVS-215et  
12V-077

**SUBJECT: FRAME SUPPORT**

**DEAR MR. MIHALICK:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Dutchmen Manufacturing, Inc's (Dutchmen) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**  
DUTCHMEN/RUBICON/2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-077

**Mfg's Report Date:** February 28, 2012

**Components:** STRUCTURE: FRAME AND MEMBERS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 28

**Summary:**

DUTCHMEN IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2012 RUBICON TRAVEL TRAILERS MANUFACTURED FROM OCTOBER 12, 2011, THROUGH FEBRUARY 23, 2012. THESE VEHICLES HAVE BEEN MANUFACTURED WITH A FRAME SUPPORT LOCATED TOO CLOSE TO THE TRAILER TIRES WHICH COULD RESULT IN THE SUPPORT CONTACTING THE TIRES WHEN LOADED.

**Consequence:**

CONTACT BETWEEN THE SUPPORT AND TIRE COULD RESULT IN TIRE FAILURE, LEADING TO LOSS OF THE VEHICLE CONTROL, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

DUTCHMEN WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL REMOVE THE INTERFERING FRAME SUPPORT AND INSTALL A NEW FRAME SUPPORT, FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MARCH 2012. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DUTCHMEN AT 1-574-537-0700.

**Notes:**

OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received your proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, or by email at [Edison.Thompson@dot.gov](mailto:Edison.Thompson@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement