



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

September 20, 2012

Mr. DALE JORDAL  
WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES INC.  
P.O. BOX 152  
605 WEST CRYSTAL LAKE ROAD  
FOREST CITY, IA 50436

NVS-215ET  
12V-453

**Subject:** Steering Gear Bracket

Dear Mr. JORDAL:

This letter serves to acknowledge WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES INC.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) 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:**  
ITASCA/SUNCRUISER/2013  
WINNEBAGO/VISTA/2013

**Mfr's Report Date:** September 13, 2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-453

**Components:**  
STEERING

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2

**Problem Description:**

Winnebago is recalling a model year 2013 Winnebago and 2013 Itasca motor home built on a Ford F-53 chassis. The steering gear bracket may have been secured with nuts that may damage the bolts due to an incompatibility between the installation torque and the nut finish.

**Consequence:**

The bolts may fracture, leading to separation of the steering gear and thus a loss of vehicle control, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

These vehicles have been repaired prior to being sold, therefore an owner notification notice will not be issued. Consumers may contact Winnebago Industries owner relations at 1-641-585-6939.

**Notes:**

Customers may 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>.

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).

Please submit one quarterly report identifying a 100% completion rate once both vehicles have been remedied.

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 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.

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 Investigations  
Enforcement