

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

February 28, 2012

12V-077
(2 Pages)

**VIA E-MAIL
RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED**

Ms. Nancy Lewis
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: Dutchmen Manufacturing Inc.
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Dutchmen 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 brands manufactured by Dutchmen.

<u>Model</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
Rubicon 2900	2012

The total number of vehicles subject to this recall campaign is 28.
These vehicles were built between 10/12/11 and 2/23/12.

- B. Description of Defect. The vehicles subject to this recall campaign 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. If the support contacts a tire this could result in a tire failure. A tire failure can lead to loss of control of the trailer resulting in serious injury.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Dutchmen discovered the defect during a routine quality inspection at its manufacturing facility on February 23, 2012. An immediate investigation determined the root cause of the defect and the manufacturing date range affected.

- D. Remedying of Defect. The remedy is to remove the interfering frame support and install a new frame support with the proper clearance to the trailer tires. Dutchmen has agreed to remedy the defect without charge to the owners.
- E. Owner Notifications. Dutchmen will notify the owners of the recreational vehicles by letter pending NHTSA approval. A copy of the owner's letter is attached for approval.
- F. Dealer Notifications. Dutchmen will notify the Dutchmen dealers of this recall. A copy of the dealer's notification is attached for approval.
- G. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Dutchmen will file quarterly reports in connection with this recall campaign.
- H. Campaign Number. Dutchmen does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Dutchmen will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Dutchmen with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Dutchmen in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact David Mihalick at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363. or Jerry McCarthy, Dutchmen at (574) 975-0546.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries
Standards Compliance Manager