



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

July 23, 2012

**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 Manufacturing (Dutchmen) has been notified by Atwood Mobile Products (Atwood) concerning a safety defect involving furnaces built between May 18, 2009 and March 29, 2012. Atwood has already initiated a safety recall campaign with respect to this defect.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain travel trailers manufactured by Dutchmen were built with Atwood furnaces that contain the defect.

As more specifically set forth below, Atwood has agreed to conduct the recall campaign involving these defective furnaces. Dutchmen will provide Atwood with a list of dealers and owners to assist Atwood in remedying the defect. Dutchmen will be filing the quarterly reports in connection with the recall campaign.

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

<u>Brand</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
Breckenridge	Breckenridge	2010-2013
Breckenridge	XTendables	2010-2013
Breckenridge	Classic Breeze	2010-2013
Breckenridge	Perfect Cottage	2010-2013
Breckenridge	Fine Life Cottage	2010-2013
Breckenridge	Bayridge	2010-2013
Breckenridge	BreckenLodge	2010-2013

The total number of vehicles subject to this recall campaign is 1017. These vehicles were built between 5/26/09 and 5/2/12.

- B. Description of Defect. The vehicles subject to this recall campaign have been manufactured with the defective furnace. The furnaces have been built with a defective gas control valve. These furnaces are model 8935-III and 8940III series AC units manufactured between May18, 2009 and March 29, 2012. There exists a potential in the

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defective units for the gas control valve to stick in the open position which could cause a risk of a fire resulting in personal injury or death.

- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Dutchmen was notified by Atwood on May 21, 2012 and supplied a list of purchase orders containing information on the defective furnaces. A manual search of the production records identified the affected unit information.
- D. Remediying of Defect. The remedy is to inspect and replace the defective gas control valve inside of the furnace if necessary. Dutchmen has agreed to remedy the defect without charge to the owners.
- E. Supplier Information:
Atwood Mobile Products
1120 N Main St
Elkhart, IN 46514-3203
574-264-2131
Contact: Judy Schutz – Customer Service Manager
- F. Owner Notifications. Atwood, on behalf of 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.
- G. Dealer Notifications. Atwood, on behalf of Dutchmen, will notify the Dutchmen dealers of this recall. A copy of the dealer's letter is attached for approval.
- H. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Dutchmen will file quarterly reports in connection with this recall campaign.
- I. 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