



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 2, 2013

Mr. David Mihalick
Standards Compliance Manager
Thor Motor Coach
419 W. Pike Street
Jackson Center, OH 45334

NVS-215KS
13V-164

Subject: Unexpected Unfurling of the Awning

Dear Mr. Mihalick:

This letter serves to acknowledge Thor Motor Coach'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:

THOR/CHALLENGER/2013-2014
THOR/CHATEAU/2013-2014
THOR/CHATEAU SPORT/2013-2014
THOR/FOUR WINDS 5000/2013-2014
THOR/FOUR WINDS SIESTA/2013
THOR/HURRICANE/2013-2014
THOR/MAJESTIC/2014
THOR/PALAZZO/2013
THOR/WINDSPORT/2013-2014

Mfr's Report Date: April 25, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-164

Components:
EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 427

Problem Description:

Thor Motor Coach is recalling certain model year 2013-2014 Challenger, Four Winds 5000, Hurricane, Chateau, Chateau Sport, and WindSport; model year 2013 Palazzo and Four Winds Siesta and model year 2014 Majestic motorhomes manufactured February 13, 2013, through April 09, 2013. If the awning installation sequence was not completely followed, the awning motor may unknowingly become damaged. A damaged motor may lead to an unfurling of the awning.

Consequence:

If motor damage occurs, it is possible that the awning can unfurl unexpectedly, either while the motorhome is at rest or while in transit, increasing the risk of personal injury or a vehicle crash.

Remedy:

Thor Motor Coach will notify owners of the coaches that had the affected awnings installed on their recreational vehicles and dealers

will replace the awning motor free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Thor at 1-877-855-2867 for more information. Owners are being instructed not to drive their vehicle until repairs can be performed.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

We have received Thor's 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:

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is expected owners will be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

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 Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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