



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

**1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590**

May 17, 2013

Mr. William Conway  
Forest River, Inc.  
55470 Country Road 1  
P.O. Box 3030  
Elkhart, IN 46515-3030

NVS-215KS  
13V-203

**Subject:** Unexpected Unfurling of the Awning

Dear Mr. Conway:

This letter serves to acknowledge Forest River, 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:**

CARGO MATE/ELIMINATOR/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/BROOKSTONE/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/CATALINA/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/CHAPARRAL/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/CONCORD/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/ENCOUNTER/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/FREEDOM EXPRESS/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/FREELANDER/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/LEPRECHAUN/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/MIRADA/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/PURSUIT/2013-2014  
COACHMEN/SPORTCOACH/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/BLUE RIDGE/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/CARDINAL/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/CHEROKEE/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/COLUMBUS/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/EVO/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/FLAGSTAFF/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/FORESTER/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/GEORGETOWN/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/LEXINGTON/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/PUMA/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/ROCKWOOD/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/SABRE/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/SALEM/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/SANDPIPER/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/SANDSTORM/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/SIERRA/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/STEALTH/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/SUNSEEKER/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/WILDCAT/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/WILDWOOD/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/WORK AND PLAY/2013-2014  
FOREST RIVER/XLR/2013-2014  
PALOMINO/MAVERICK TRUCK CAMPER/2013-2014  
PRIME TIME/AVENGER/2013-2014  
PRIME TIME/CRUSADER/2013-2014  
PRIME TIME/LACROSSE/2013-2014  
PRIME TIME/SANIBER/2013-2014  
PRIME TIME/TRACER/2013-2014  
SHASTA/PHOENIX/2013-2014  
SHASTA/REVERE/2013-2014

**Mfr's Report Date:** April 18, 2013

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 13V-203

**Components:**  
EQUIPMENT

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 9,526

**Problem Description:**

Forest River is recalling certain model year 2013-2014 Forest River models Blue Ridge, Cardinal, Cherokee, Columbus, EVO, Georgetown, Flagstaff, Forester, Lexington, Puma, Rockwood, Sabre, Salem, Sandpiper, Sandstorm, Sierra, Stealth, Sunseeker, Wildcat, Wildwood, Work and Play and XLR; Coachmen models Brookstone, Catalina, Chaparral, Concord, Encounter, Freedom

Express, Freelander, Leprechaun, Mirada, Pursuit, and Sportcoach; Prime Time models Avenger, Crusader, Lacrosse, Saniber, and Tracer; Palomino model Maverick Truck Camper; Cargo Mate model Eliminator and Shasta models Revere, Phoenix recreational vehicles manufactured from February 13, 2013, through April 18, 2013. Due to a design change in the power awning motor assembly, the motor assembly screws may unknowingly shear.

**Consequence:**

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

**Remedy:**

Forest River will notify owners and Dometic staff will replace the affected motors with motors of a different design. A notification schedule has not yet been provided. Owners may contact Forest River at 1-574-389-4600 or Dometic at 1-888-447-0003 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's Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Per the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577, Forest River must notify its owners using company letterhead.

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. You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers.

As stated in your report, we understand that Dometic will be filing the required six quarterly recall completion rates reports. However, since Forest River is responsible for the performance of the recall completion in accordance with 49 CFR §573.5, please be advised that if Dometic's filing is unsatisfactory, the agency may require Forest River to conduct a follow-up notification.

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](mailto:kelly.schuler@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,



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