



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

July 26, 2013

AJ Yoder  
Customer Service  
Lakota Corporation  
4 Stoutco Drive  
Bristol, IN 46507

NVS-215KS  
13V-301

**Subject:** Unexpected Unfurling of the Awning

Dear AJ Yoder:

This letter serves to acknowledge Lakota Corporation'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:**  
LAKOTA/BIGHORN/2014  
LAKOTA/CHARGER/2014

**Mfr's Report Date:** July 2, 2013

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 13V-301

**Components:**  
EQUIPMENT

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 49

**Problem Description:**

Lakota Corp (Lakota) is recalling certain model year 2014 CX9-BBX18 (Charger and Bighorn) recreational trailers. Due to a design change in the power awning motor assembly, the motor assembly screws may unknowingly shear.

**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:**

Lakota will notify owners and Dometic staff will replace the affected motors with motors of a different design. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Lakota Corp at 1-574-848-1636 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).

We have received Lakota's proposed owner notification letter and envelope and they are 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.

We have been informed that Dometic will be handling the quarterly reporting for this campaign. Please be reminded that as the vehicle manufacturer Lakota is ultimately responsible for conducting an adequate safety recall campaign of its vehicles. Accordingly if this safety recall campaign is not successful, the agency may require Lakota to conduct a follow-up notification and conduct additional quarterly reporting.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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