



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 9, 2013

Mr. Ted Harris, P.E.  
Engineering & Product Development  
Columbia Northwest, Inc.  
1297 Kecksburg Road  
Mount Pleasant, PA 15666

NVS-215KS  
13V-333

**Subject:** Possible Wheel Detachment

Dear Mr. Harris, P.E.:

This letter serves to acknowledge Columbia Northwest, 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:**  
SOMERSET/NIAGARA/2013-2014

**Mfr's Report Date:** August 1, 2013

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 13V-333

**Components:**  
WHEELS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 66

**Problem Description:**

Columbia Northwest is recalling certain model year 2013-2014 Somerset Niagara trailers manufactured January 2012 through July 2013 and equipped with 14" aluminum wheels and corresponding lug nuts. The aluminum wheels may disengage from the axle hub.

**Consequence:**

The loss of a wheel during transit can result in the loss of control of the trailer or the tow vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash. Additionally, the loose wheel becomes a road hazard.

**Remedy:**

Columbia Northwest will send each Niagara owner a new lug nut wrench to tighten down the lug nuts, free of charge. Columbia Northwest dealers can re-torque the wheels if the customer is not able to, at no charge. The recall is expected to begin in mid-August. Owners may contact Columbia Northwest at 1-724-423-7440.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

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](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 the first name being the most prominent.

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