



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 23, 2013

Mr. Chad Hiepler  
American Surplus & Manufacturing, Inc.  
P.O. Box 326  
Montevideo, MN 56265

NVS-215KS  
13V-362

**Subject:** Unexpected Unfurling of the Awning

Dear Mr. Hiepler:

This letter serves to acknowledge American Surplus & Manufacturing, 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:**  
ICE CASTLE/RV EDITION/2014

**Mfr's Report Date:** August 13, 2013

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 13V-362

**Components:**  
EQUIPMENT

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 52

**Problem Description:**

American Surplus & Mfg. Inc. (American Surplus) is recalling certain model year 2014 Ice Castle Fish House RV Edition vehicles manufactured February 2013 through April 2013. Due to a design change in the Dometic-brand 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:**

American Surplus will notify owners, and Dometic staff will replace the affected motors with one of a different design. The recall is expected to begin in August 2013. Owners may contact American Surplus at 1-320-269-5428 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 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).

American Surplus must submit a sample of the envelope in which you intend to mail the recall notice to owners. The words "SAFETY," "RECALL," and "NOTICE," in any order, must be printed on the envelope in all capital letters, in a type larger than that used in the address section, and in a manner distinguishable from the other type in a manner other than size (for example, in a different font or color).

We have been informed that Dometic will be handling the quarterly reporting for this campaign. Please be reminded that as the vehicle manufacturer American Surplus 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 American Surplus 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 the first name being the most prominent.

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