



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 9, 2013

Mr. Jack Yenne
Customer Service Manager
Peterson Industries, Inc.
Peterson Industries, Inc.
616 E Hwy 36
Smith Center, KS 66967

NVS-215KS
13V-388

Subject: Unexpected Unfurling of the Awning

Dear Mr. Yenne:

This letter serves to acknowledge Peterson Industries, 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:
EXCEL/RV/2013-2014

Mfr's Report Date: August 27, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-388

Components:
EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 28

Problem Description:

Peterson Industries Inc. (Peterson) is recalling certain model year 2013-2014 Excel travel trailers manufactured February 2013 through June 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:

Peterson Industries Inc. will notify owners, and Dometic staff will replace the affected motors with one of a different design. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Peterson at 1-800-368-3759 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.

We have received Peterson'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. 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.

We have been informed that Dometic will be handling the quarterly reporting for this campaign. Please be reminded that as the vehicle manufacturer Peterson 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 Peterson 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 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