



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 15, 2014

Mr. Craig Cox
Codes and Compliance Manager
Newmar Corporation
355 N Delaware Street
Nappanee, IN 46550

NVS-215KS
13V-653

Subject: Steering Linkage Castle Nuts may be Loose

Dear Mr. Cox:

This letter serves to acknowledge Newmar 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:

NEWMAR/ESSEX/2013-2014
NEWMAR/KING AIRE/2013-2014

Mfr's Report Date: December 11, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-653

Components:

STEERING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 47

Problem Description:

Newmar Corporation (Newmar) is recalling certain model year 2013-2014 motorhomes manufactured October 15, 2012, through June 20, 2013. In the affected vehicles, the castle nuts for the steering linkage ball joint fasteners, which mount to bell cranks, may be loose. If the castle nuts become completely loose, the steering linkage may separate from the bell cranks without warning.

Consequence:

This may cause a loss of steering, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Newmar will notify owners and Spartan dealers will replace the steering linkage fasteners, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Customers may contact Newmar at 1-800-731-8300.

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.

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).

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 understand that Spartan will be handling the quarterly reporting for this campaign. Please be reminded that as the vehicle manufacturer, Newmar 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 Newmar to conduct a follow-up notification and conduct additional quarterly reporting.

On August 20, 2013, NHTSA announced new changes to the requirements governing safety recalls. Some of these requirements are already in effect. Please ensure your company will be in compliance with each requirement on, or before, its respective effective date. For a summary of the requirements and their effective dates please click on the "New!" link at <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Manufacturers>.

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