

419 West Pike Street, PO Box 629, Jackson Center, OH 45334-0629

January 23, 2013

VIA E-MAIL
RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED

Ms. Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Dutchmen Manufacturing
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Ms. Lewis:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain trailers manufactured by Dutchmen Manufacturing (Dutchmen) were built with a defect that has been determined to be safety related.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The trailers built with the safety defect are as follows:

<u>Model Name</u>	<u>Model Years Affected</u>
Grand Junction	2007 - 2011
Victory Lane	2008 - 2009
Winners Circle	2008 - 2009
N'Tense	2009 - 2010
Freedom Spirit	2010
Monte Vista	2009

The total number of trailers subject to this recall campaign is 698.
These trailers were built between October 5, 2006 and June 10, 2010.

- B. Description of Defect. All of the trailers subject to this recall campaign are equipped with an Iota ITS-50R Transfer Switch which may be experiencing heat related failures when exposed to elevated electrical loads associated with RV use in higher ambient temperatures. The connections at the buss bar inside of the switch are not adequate resulting in elevated operating temperatures. This potentially could result in a fire. In the event of a fire, there is a potential for property damage, personal injury or death. There have been no reports of injuries due to this defect.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Dutchmen was contacted by NHTSA on August 23, 2012 requesting information on the Iota ITS-50R switch. Information was provided back to NHTSA on September 5, 2012. Since the last information was supplied to NHTSA, Dutchmen has received an additional report of an overheated transfer switch. As a result of the additional incident, Dutchmen decided to proceed with a recall of the transfer switches.

- D. Remedying of Defect. The Recall campaign to be implemented by Dutchmen Manufacturing to remedy the safety defect will be to replace the Iota ITS-50R Transfer Switch. As will be set forth in the owner notification letter, this defect will be corrected by Dutchmen Manufacturing at no expense to the owner.
- E. Supplier Information
- Iota Engineering
PO Box 11846
1301 E. Wieding Rd
Tuscon, AZ 85706
Contact: Steve Shell - President
- F. Owner Notifications. Dutchmen will notify owners of the trailers of the safety defect. The Owner's notification letter is attached for approval.
- G. Dealer Notifications: Dutchmen will notify its dealers of the safety defect. The Dealer's letter is attached for approval. This letter will be transmitted electronically to the Dutchmen dealer population.
- H. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Dutchmen Manufacturing will be filing quarterly reports as required by Part 573.7 of Title 49 the Code of Federal Regulations.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Dutchmen with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Dutchmen in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363 or contact Roger Hirschy at Dutchmen directly at 574-975-0630.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries
Standards Compliance Manager