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By Recall Management Division at 12:06 pm, Apr 23, 2014

14V-220  
(3 pages)



## Forest River, Inc.

55470 County Road 1, P.O. Box 3030, Elkhart, Indiana 46515-3030 • 574-389-4600 • Fax 574-296-7558

April 23, 2014

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Recall Management Division  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

Dear Sir or Madame,

Forest River, Inc. has decided that there is a noncompliance on the Federal Certification label XLR travel trailer Model XLT29HFS Vehicle built between 10/10/2013 and 4/16/2014 and is notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance.

Forest River, Inc.  
55470 C.R. 1 P.O. Box 3030  
Elkhart, Indiana 46515-3030  
574-389-4600  
Email: [forestriverinc.com](mailto:forestriverinc.com)

William G. Conway Jr. Chief Corporate Engineer is the contact for information on this recall.  
Telephone: 574-534-6913, Fax 574-343-5967, Email: [bconway@forestriverinc.com](mailto:bconway@forestriverinc.com).

This report is prepared by William G. Conway Jr. Chief Corporate Engineer.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William G. Conway Jr.", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

William G. Conway Jr.  
Forest River, Inc.  
574-534-6913  
Fax: 574-343-5967  
Email: [bconway@forestriverinc.com](mailto:bconway@forestriverinc.com)

**“The Two Forests of Forest River... Forming Relationships with Nature”**

Identify the Vehicles involved in the recall;

Makes: 2014 XLR XLT29HFS model Travel Trailer Model years. 2014

Model Numbers: XLT29HSF

Production dates: Beginning: 10/10/2013 ending 4/16/2014.

Vehicle Type: Recreational Trailer.

Body Style: Fifth Wheel Trailer

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicle from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

It is a specific model number as mentioned above.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. 100%.

Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

There is a potential of 152 units

Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

Less than 10% XLR Travel Trailer vehicles produced within this time frame.

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined:

Units are categorized in our Corporate Computer System by model. All invoicing to dealers, VIN numbers, serial numbers and warranty retail information can be cross referenced to these models. It is a simple matter of requesting all information for a specific model number; this is processed as a spread sheet with all the pertinent information.

Describe the defect and noncompliance.

The GAWR on the model XLT's Federal Certification Tag is incorrectly stated as 2,304 Kg (5,080 pounds). The actual GAWR is 1,996 Kg (4,400 pounds). This also affects the GVWR making it incorrectly indicated at 5,051 Kg (11,135 Pounds) and the correct GVWR is 4,433 Kg (9,774 pounds).

Describe the consequences of the defect or noncompliance:

The GAWR was based on a 2,359 Kg (5,200 pound) axle with ST225/75R15/D tires which would make the GAWR 2,304 Kg (5,080 pounds) based on the load capacity of the tire. However in producing the floor plan it was fitted with 1,996 Kg (4,400 pound) GAWR axles using the ST225/75R15/D tire which reduced the GAWR and GVWR.

Identify any warning that can precede or occur:

If the unit is loaded to the GVWR the axles will be overloaded. According to their rating, this could create a stress on the suspension that may result in the loss of control and possibly a crash resulting in property damage, personal injury or death.

With respect to a defect a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that are the basis for the determination of the defect:

While preparing a unit for shipment on or about 4/18/2014, a Quality Control Auditor noticed that the GAWR on the Federal Certification Label did not match the specification information on a label attached to the axle beam.

Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance:

The information has been corrected in the corporate computer system.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly verses the recalled component/assembly.

There will be no difference between the remedy and the recall Federal Certification labels.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production.

The units in production and staged for shipment have had corrected, labels printed and applied in place of the incorrect ones.

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers and purchasers.

Corrected Federal Certification Labels will be printed and sent to the dealer or retail customer of record for installation on the unit upon receipt of a recall number from NHTSA, the required documents for this recall will be processed immediately.

Regards,

William G. Conway Jr.  
Chief Corporate Engineer  
Forest River, Inc.  
574-534-6913  
Fax: 574-343-5967  
Email: [bconway@forestriverinc.com](mailto:bconway@forestriverinc.com)