



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

April 8, 2015

Mr. David Mihalick  
Standards Compliance Manager  
Airstream, Inc.  
419 West Pike Street  
P.O. Box 629  
Jackson Center, OH 45334-0629

NVS-215KS  
15V-190

**Subject:** Abutting Wedge Incorrectly Installed

Dear Mr. Mihalick:

This letter serves to acknowledge Airstream, 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:**  
AIRSTREAM/INTERSTATE/2015

**Mfr's Report Date:** March 27, 2015

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 15V-190

**Components:**  
STRUCTURE:BODY:ROOF AND PILLARS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 180

**Problem Description:**

Airstream, Inc. (Airstream) is recalling certain model year 2015 Interstate motorhomes manufactured from October 6, 2014, through March 25, 2015, and built on a Mercedes-Benz Sprinter chassis. In the affected vehicles, the abutting wedge, a component attached to the door jamb to make opening the door easier after a severe frontal crash, may have been installed incorrectly.

**Consequence:**

If a vehicle that has an incorrectly installed abutting wedge is involved in a severe frontal crash, a greater force may be necessary to open the doors, increasing the risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

Mercedes Benz will notify owners on behalf of Airstream, and dealers will inspect and, if necessary, correct the abutting wedge installation, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Airstream customer service at 1-937-596-6111 or owners may contact Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Customer Service at 1-877-762-8267.

**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:

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 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners 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.

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

We understand that Mercedes-Benz Sprinter will be handling the quarterly reporting for this campaign. Please be reminded that as the vehicle manufacturer, Airstream 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 Airstream 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,



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