

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**15V-160**

Manufacturer Name : Forest River, Inc.
Submission Date : MAR 17,2015
NHTSA Recall No. : 15V-160
Manufacturer Recall No. : 430-03112015-0017

**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Forest River, Inc.
 Address : 55470 CR 1
 P.O. Box 3030 Elkhart IN 46515-3030
 Company phone : 219-533-5934

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 1,125
 Estimated percentage with defect : 100

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2013-2014 Forest River - Sabre Sabre Travel Trailers & Fifth-Wheels
 Vehicle Type : TRAILERS
 Body Style :
 Power Train : NR
 Descriptive Information : Descriptive Information:

Forest River has determined that a limited number of Forest River – Sabre Travel Trailers and Fifth Wheels were manufactured with a possible brake wiring defect that may result in the pinching and/or breaking of the wire and complete loss of the electrical brakes on your Sabre.

Production Dates : AUG 01, 2013 - JUN 30, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : 4X4FSRM23E3008985

End : 4X4FSRJ28F3010110

Not sequential VINs

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Describe the defect or noncompliance:

The 12 Volt electrical wires for the brakes may have been ran through the spring hangers in such a manner that will allow them to get pinched/broken between the axle hangers and the suspension components which could lead to chaffed, broken or cause a short in the wiring leading to a fire and directly affect the breaking ability of the trailer.

Description of the Safety Risk : Describe the safety risk:

Possibly lead to chaffed, broken or cause a short in the wiring leading to a fire and directly affect the breaking ability of the trailer.

Description of the Cause : Describe the cause:

This is derived from poor planning in the routing of the electric brake wire in the manufacturing stage of the trailer/fifth-wheel.

The 12 Volt electrical wires for the brakes may have been ran through the spring hangers in such a manner that will allow them to get pinched/broken between the axle hangers and the suspension components which could lead to chaffed, broken or cause a short in the wiring leading to a fire and directly affect the breaking ability of the trailer.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Identify any warning which can precede or occur:

The tow vehicle would experience a pushing effect from the trailer if the brake wire is broken, which could result increase the stopping distance.

Depending on how the wire is broken, it could also lead to a fire as the power wire makes contact with the axle suspension and up to the trailers underbelly which could melt.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

FOREIGN STATES

Country : NR

Chronology :

Provide the chronology of events leading up to the defect decision or test data for the noncompliance decision:

The issue was discovered via warranty claim by a dealership whereas the customer complained of brake loss/failure. During diagnosis to restore the brakes, the dealership found that the 12 volt wire that operates the brakes was ran through the spring hangers to get pinched/broken between the axle hangers and the suspension components which could lead to chaffed, broken or cause a short out. In this particular case the wires had shorted out. The dealership doing the repairs noticed the wiring issue and submitted pictures for warranty approval.

We have thoroughly researched our Warranty Data with the following terms to identify this problem:

Brake

Brake Loss

Brake Wire

Short Circuit

7 Pin Connector

We have also reviewed for claims of insurance, which we were unable to find any record of this safety defect.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Describe the defect/noncompliance remedy program, including the manufacturer's plan for reimbursement:

Visually inspect unit to see if only one wire is supplying power to the brakes and run in close proximity to the springs or axle hangers.

Tools needed: Wire Strippers, Stanley knife, Wire Crimps, Electrical Tape

Order the below kit from your Sabre Parts Department at no charge:

Kit # 10F16943A

- 6 ea. Bell Clamps
- 3' Brake Wire
- 2 ea. Wire Zip Ties

Step 1: Unfasten underbelly in axle area to expose main brake wiring.

Step 2: Disconnect brake wires from axles

Step 3: Cut 5/8" hole in underbelly directly above axle area where brake wires would hookup

Step 4: Cut and splice wires into main brake line directly above axle area where brake wires would hookup to wheel hubs, use bell caps and crimp for connections, tape completely with electrical tape

Step 5: Route wires through holes previously cut in underbelly

Step 6: Reattach underbelly to frame

Step 7: Splice wires into brake hubs, fasten with bell caps crimp and tape as above

Step 8: Fasten wires to axle assembly as in picture being careful to avoid areas that may cause wear or chaffing.

Step 9: Test brakes for functionality.

If you have had this repair performed prior to receiving this letter, you are eligible to receive the reimbursement for the full cost of obtaining this work. Please provide the invoice to for your reimbursement to the following address:

Sabre RV
C/O Forest River, Inc
Attn: Warranty Manager
2412 Century Drive
Goshen, Indiana 46528

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Describe what distinguishes the remedy component from the recalled component:

This is derived from poor planning in the routing of the electric brake wire in the manufacturing stage of the trailer/fifth-wheel. There is no relationship for this to a component supplier.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production:

At the time of the initial warranty claim on this brake wire, Quality Control was advised to ensure the issue was not taking place currently. The responsible party running the wire received more in depth training as well. Our Pre-Delivery Inspection process and their staff also look for this issue on all Forest River products.

Furthermore, Forest River has since changed the routing of the wire and now is being through the underbelly and is now dropping a wire down at each axle and not running it through the spring hangers thus alleviating the chance of contact with the suspension parts.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Describe the recall schedule for notifications:

At this time we have a third party gathering the current owner information so the letters can be mailed out by the Planned Date of 4/03/2015.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : APR 03, 2015 - APR 17, 2015

Planned Owner Notification Date : APR 03, 2015 - APR 17, 2015

* NR - Not Reported