



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 23, 2017

Mr. David Mihalick
Thor Motor Coach
419 W Pike St
Jackson Center, OH 45334

NEF-150MR
17V-166

Subject: Sofa may be Missing Middle Seat Belt

Dear Mr. Mihalick:

This letter serves to acknowledge Thor Motor Coach'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:

THOR/CHATEAU/2017
THOR/FOUR WINDS/2017
THOR/FREEDOM ELITE/2017

Mfr's Report Date: March 13, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V-166

Components:
SEAT BELTS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 171

Problem Description:

Thor Motor Coach (TMC) is recalling certain 2017 Chateau, Freedom Elite, and Four Winds Motorhomes. The sofa may not have a seat belt for the middle seating position.

Consequence:

Without a seat belt, the occupant sitting in the middle position of the sofa will not be properly restrained in the event of a crash, increasing the risk of an injury.

Remedy:

Thor Motor Coach will notify owners, and dealers will install a middle seat belt, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin May 7, 2017. Owners may contact TMC customer service 1-877-855-2867. TMC's number for the recall is RC000130.

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.

We have received TMC's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

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).

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.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at 202-366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@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