



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 2, 2018

Ms. Pamela VanderMel
Director of Warranty
Lippert Components, Inc.
1701 Century Drive
Goshen, IN 46528

NEF-150MR
18E-050

Subject: Awning May Deploy While Moving

Dear Ms. VanderMel:

This letter serves to acknowledge Lippert Components, 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:

LCI/SOLERA SMART ARM AWNING/9999

Mfr's Report Date: July 2, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18E-050

Components:

EQUIPMENT:RECREATIONAL VEHICLE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 14,383

Problem Description:

Lippert Components, Inc. (LCI) is recalling certain Solera Smart Arm Awnings. Water may enter the awning control module wiring harness and cause the awnings to partially deploy unexpectedly while the recreational vehicle is being driven.

Consequence:

If the awning deploys while the vehicle is moving, it can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

LCI will notify the vehicle manufacturers that purchased the awnings and the vehicle manufacturers will conduct recalls to have their dealers replace the Solera Smart Arm controller with a new Smart Arm Controller, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in August 2018. Owners may contact LCI customer service at 1-574-538-4514. LCI's number for this recall is 18-058-001.

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 note that your report states that LCI does not believe that these awnings present an unreasonable risk to motor vehicle safety or that these awnings contain a safety defect. In our view, this statement has no force or effect in terms of LCI's obligation to undertake and complete the recall and NHTSA does not agree with it.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft purchaser notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final purchaser 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 once the manufacturer has filed a recall with 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