



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 15, 2009

MR. J. DAVID ROBERTS
VICE PRESIDENT
NORCOLD, INC.
600 S KUTHER ROAD
SIDNEY, OH 45365

NVS-215kjs
09E-027

SUBJECT: REFRIGERATORS/POSSIBLE FIRE

DEAR MR. ROBERTS:

This letter serves to acknowledge Norcold, Inc.'s (Norcold) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a defect for the products listed below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal laws.

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:

NORCOLD/1200LR/9999
NORCOLD/1200LRIM/9999
NORCOLD/1201LRIM/9999

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09E-027

Mfg's Report Date: May 5, 2009

Components: EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 22,350

Summary:

NORCOLD IS RECALLING CERTAIN REFRIGERATORS, MODELS 1200LR, 1200LRIM, AND 1201LRIM, MANUFACTURED FROM MARCH 1, 2001 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002, WITH SERIAL NUMBERS BETWEEN 1273701 AND 1536607, NON-CONSECUTIVELY. THE UNITS WERE INSTALLED AS ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT IN VARIOUS RECREATIONAL VEHICLES. A FATIGUE FAILURE IN THE SECTION OF THE COOLING UNIT WHICH CONTAINS THE REFRIGERANT COULD ALLOW THE LIQUID SOLUTION TO SLOWLY LEAK. IF A LEAK OCCURS AND THE REFRIGERATOR CONTINUES TO BE OPERATED AFTER SOLUTION CIRCULATION HAS CEASED THE HEAT SOURCE COULD GENERATE VERY HIGH

TEMPERATURES. AT SUCH HIGH TEMPERATURES THE COOLING UNIT COULD RUPTURE.

Consequence:

IF A LEAK OCCURS AND THE UNIT CONTINUES TO OPERATE, HYDROGEN GAS MAY BE EXPELLED AND CAN BE IGNITED, RESULTING IN A FIRE, POSSIBLY CAUSING SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

Remedy:

NORCOLD IS WORKING WITH THE RV MANUFACTURERS TO NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE COOLING UNITS FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MAY/JUNE 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT NORCOLD AT 1-800-767-9101.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following:

Please provide a list of the vehicle manufacturers which purchased the subject refrigerators by company name and address, telephone and fax numbers, a contact name and title of a knowledgeable representative, and the quantity of cooling units sold to each company.

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, posters, 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).

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 close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Person".

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement