

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF DEFECT  
INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. 99V-223 by the  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

AUG 17 1999

Part 573 Report Date: August 12, 1999

MANUFACTURER: Freightliner Corporation

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: Mr. Gary W. Rossow

FAX: (503) 735-6800

SUBJECT: 1,092 Freightliner 1997-1999 XC model motorhome chassis equipped with a side mount radiator and hydraulic system manufactured from July 1997 through June 30, 1999. The filter gasket for the power steering hydraulic fluid can blow out due to pressure spikes in the system. This can result in a loss of power steering fluid and an eventual loss of power assist to the steering if the leak is undetected. Freightliner Campaign No. FL-243.

This is an initial acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be forthcoming shortly. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

In accordance with Part 577, amended July 7, 1995, a draft owner notification letter must be submitted for review prior to mailing.

As stated in Part 573.6, 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. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin September 24, 1999. Since this is so close to the end of the quarter, the first quarterly report will be due by January 30, 2000.

If you have any questions, please call:

*Patw*

Patricia Wallace, Recall Analyst on (202) 366-5232 or  
Jonathan White, Chief on (202) 366-5227  
Recall Analysis Division



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

400 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

DEC 21 1999

Mr. Gary W. Rossow  
Director, Government Technical Affairs  
Freightliner Corporation  
4747 N. Channel Avenue  
Portland, OR 97217

NSA-11paw  
99V-223

Dear Mr. Rossow:

We have reviewed Freightliner Corporation's (Freightliner) Defect Information Report dated August 12, 1999, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 1,092 Freightliner 1997 through 1999 XC model motor home chassis equipped with a side mount radiator and hydraulic system manufactured from July 1997 through June 30, 1999. The filter gasket for the power steering hydraulic fluid can blow out due to pressure spikes in the system. This can result in a loss of power steering fluid and an eventual loss of power assist to the steering if the leak is undetected. The assigned recall identification number for this recall is 99V-223 (Freightliner Campaign No. FL-243).

**Freightliner is responsible for the remedy of these motor home chassis from this date forward, regardless of vehicle age, mileage, or ownership.**

#### Quarterly Status Reports

As stated in Part 573.6, 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. As stated in your report, owner notification was expected to begin September 24, 1999. Since this is so close to the end of the quarter, the first quarterly report will be due by January 30, 2000.

#### Recall Communications

Communications pertaining to safety recalls and issued by Freightliner to more than one distributor, dealer, purchaser, or owner are to be submitted to this office within 5 days of issuance as described under 49 CFR Part 573.5(c)(9). Where this information is sent over a period time, the communications are to be submitted within 5 days from the date the communications were first sent, and furnish the date, or range of dates, each communication was issued. This includes information transmitted by computer, telefax, or other electronic means; and initial or interim communications. All copies are to be in readable form and a written transcript should be provided for each non-written communication. Also, if the communication was not nationally and uniformly distributed, then identify the criteria used for the distribution.

### Manufacturer Communications

Part 573.8, "Notices, Bulletins and Other Communications," requires that every motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment manufacturer shall furnish a copy of **all notices, bulletins, and other communications (including warranty and policy extension communiques and product improvement bulletins)** to manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or purchasers, regarding any defect in its vehicle or items of equipment (including any failure or malfunction beyond normal deterioration in use, any failure of performance, or any flaw or unintended deviation from design specifications), **whether or not such defect is safety related**. These notices or communications are to be submitted, regardless of the media used to transmit the information. Where communications are made orally or electronically, provide a transcript. In all other cases, provide the information in the media form used to transmit the information. On a case by case basis, we may require written transcripts of this material as well. Copies are to be submitted monthly, not more than 5 working days after the end of each month.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pat Wallace at (202) 366-5232 or fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,



Jonathan D. White, Chief  
Recall Analysis Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Safety Assurance