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By delia.lopez at 10:28 am, Oct 05, 2010

October 1, 2010

10V-467
(2 Pages)

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter, Director
Office of Defects
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
400 - 7th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Winnebago Industries, Inc. submits the following report pursuant to Part 573 of the NHTSA regulations. The numbered paragraphs below correspond to those found at Part 573.6(c).

1. Winnebago Industries, Inc.
605 W. Crystal Lake Road
Forest City, IA 50436
2. The motor vehicles potentially containing the noncompliance are certain 2005 through 2009 model year Winnebago Sightseer[®] and Itasca Sunova[®] motor homes. Information regarding the manufacturing dates is being compiled and will be provided in forthcoming correspondence.
3. The total number of vehicles potentially containing the noncompliance is currently being researched and will be provided in forthcoming correspondence.
4. It is unknown at this time what percent of the vehicles may contain the noncompliance.
5. Winnebago Industries, Inc. has decided a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 210 exists with the dinette area seat belts. In a collision, stress can cause the attachment to tear and allow the anchor to separate from the body of the vehicle. The safety belt may not protect an occupant in the event of a vehicle crash.
6. N/A.
7. Winnebago Industries, Inc. discovered this defect as a result of compliance testing. When a normal production assembly arrived for testing in August 2010, it did not represent the design intended for production. Our research found that the testing prior to original design and production revealed that the seat belt anchorages required a steel plate in the design to meet FMVSS 210 requirements. However, we have determined that the final design did not include the steel plate. Therefore, the seat belt anchorages will not consistently meet FMVSS 210 requirements.
8. Winnebago Industries, Inc. is in the process of determining a remedy and will advise as developed.
9. The dealer letter will be drafted and provided in forthcoming correspondence.

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P.O. Box 152 • 605 West Crystal Lake Road • Forest City, Iowa 50436 • PH: 641/585-3535 • FAX: 641/585-6966
<http://www.winnebagoind.com>

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10. The owner letter will be drafted and provided in forthcoming correspondence.
11. The recall documents will carry the Winnebago Industries, Inc. Number 119.

Additional information will be forthcoming. Should you have questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald W. Post". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ronald W. Post
Product Compliance Manager

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Enclosure