



Foretravel, Inc.

1221 NW Stallings Drive
Nacogdoches, Texas 75964
936.564.8367 Fax 936.564.0391
www.foretravel.com

November 3, 2000

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein, Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590
Fax: 202.366.7882

Re.: NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign Number: ~~00V-007~~ 00V-246.310

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Pursuant per 49 CFR Part 573.6 is the Defect Information Report for the aforementioned assigned NHTSA Safety Recall, number 00F-047.005.

If you have any questions whatsoever, please feel free to contact me at: (800) 955-6226; Extension #254. Also, my FAX number is: (936) 564-8935.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Packard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael C. Packard
Director of Warranty and Service

Enclosure

M O T O R H O M E S O F D I S T I N C T I O N



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PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

On October 24, 2000, Foretravel, Inc., decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in items of motor vehicle equipment listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR, Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: November 2, 2000.

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable):
00E047.

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled.

Foretravel, Incorporated
1221 N.W. Stallings Drive
Nacogdoches, TX 75964

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Michael C. Packard
Director of Warranty and Service
Foretravel, Incorporated
Telephone Number: (936) 564-8367; Ext. #254—Fax No.: (936) 564-8935

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Michael C. Packard
Director of Warranty and Service, Foretravel, Incorporated

Signed: Michael C. Packard



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Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

NHTSA Assigned Recall Number: 00E-047

Make(s): Foretravel Model Years Involved: 2000-2001 Model(s):
U270/U295/U320/GY320 Series.

Production Dates: Beginning: September 3, 1999 Ending: October 25, 2000

VIN Range: (1E97D5368YN054051) through (1E97D5345IN054237)

Vehicle Type: Class "A" motorhome Bodystyle: Unicoach/Grandvilla

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall: Collation of V.I.N.'s with recorded model and serial numbers of affected recalled component axle assemblies.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by Foretravel, Incorporated, that the recalled population represents: 100 percent

II. Identify the Recall Population

Total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Number: 76 Model: Unicoach Models U270/U295/U320/GY320
Year: 2000-2001

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 76

The approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: Unknown at present time



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Identify and describe how the recall population was determined—in particular, how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles: Foretravel, Incorporated, purchased a lot of 76 front-axle assemblies from July, 1999 through November, 1999 from ArvinMeritor, the vendor-supplier. We were notified by them about the potential safety defect.

Manufacturing dates of potentially affected Foretravel units are from September 3, 1999 through October 25, 2000.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should include the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

TRW Commercial Steering Systems (TRW) is the supplier for the TRW 2-EDL Model Ball-sockets to ArvinMeritor, the company that assembles and supplies the front axle assemblies for the Foretravel Class "A" motorhomes, has determined the defect is such that on some applications, the ball-socket assemblies may separate due to premature wear.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Arvin-Meritor has determined the defect exists in certain Model 20 EDL Ball Sockets Manufactured by TRW and shipped to Arvin-Meritor from July 5, 1999 through October 18, 1999. Arvin-Meritor has determined that the last affected axle assemblies using the affected tie rod ends were manufactured in mid-November, 1999. Arvin-Meritor's analysis estimates that the last suspect material would have been installed in axle assemblies by this date.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

In late May, 2000, Arvin-Meritor received a report that a TRW tie rod end had separated in service. Arvin-Meritor promptly informed TRW who conducted the ensuing investigation.

This issue does not involve non-compliance with a motor vehicle standard.



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**Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.
Affected tie rod end could fail without warning.**

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Axle Assembly Supplied to Foretravel, Incorporated by:

**Arvin-Meritor
2135 West Maple Road
Troy, MI 48064-7186
Internet: www.arvinmeritorinc.com**

Ball Socket Assembly Supplied to Arvin-Meritor by:

**TRW Commercial Steering Systems
P.O. Box 60
Lafayette, IN 47902-0060
(317) 423-5377
(317) 429-1868 Fax**

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

**G.T. Bowman, Manager
Product Integrity and Reliability—Arvin-Meritor**

**Larry LaFleur, Director Operations
TRW Commercial Steering Systems**

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.



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There have been no reports of accidents, injuries, fires, crashes, or fatalities with regard to this defect, as reported to Foretravel, Incorporated, by Arvin-Meritor or TRW Commercial Commercial Steering Systems.

10/25-28/2000—Obtained letter from Arvin-Meritor axles with the TRW tie rod ends, and letter attached from TRW Commercial Steering Systems: NHTSA Recall Number 00E-047. TRW company representative not available; however, Foretravel initiated a callation effort to mobilize staff to research and identify the units containing potentially defective tie rod ends with the current owner/location—Sum Total of 76 axles containing the recalled component were recorded.

10/27-28/2000—Researched data base and records to identify total of 76 affected axles and collated with respective unit V.I.N.'s. Advised by Mr. Mike Davis, representative at TRW Commercial Steering Systems they would be shipping replacement kits sometime after the week of November 6, 2000. These replacement kits will be shipped out to the respective Foretravel Service center performing the recall campaign. Foretravel, Incorporated will contact the service managers by Certified Mail.

V. Identify the Remedy

Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance.

(ATTACHED ENCLOSURE OF SERVICE BULLETIN #LNK-112—TRW Steering & Suspensions Systems bulletin)

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Remedied assembly will be to replace the suspect TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assemblies with the appropriate size TRW DL ball-socket assemblies.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.



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The Arvin-Meritor front axle assembly containing the potentially defective component was discontinued by TRW supplied to Arvin-Meritor.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Beginning the week commencing on November 13, 2000, Foretravel, Incorporated will begin notification of purchasers, if draft letter to owners meets with NHTSA's approval. Also, the appropriate Notification Envelope will be sent to purchasers of recalled vehicles.

Beginning the week commencing on November 6, 2000, Foretravel, Incorporated will begin entering all of the recalled V.I.N.'s of affected recalled vehicles into the computer database. Additionally, the copies of TRW's Service Bulletin #LNK-112 will be forwarded to the Foretravel dealership service managers.

Foretravel, Inc. will begin sending customer notification letters to owners no later than October 16, 2000.

The dealer/distributor/retailer network will be notified of the remedy with instructions by FAX, and via "Certified Mail" to the respective Service Managers, accompanied with a sample copy of the Customer Notification Letter. Additionally, this network will have the VIN's entered into their respective computer database, notifying them a recall campaign exists on the affected vehicles. Dealers/retailers not linked with Foretravel directly will be notified by FAX transmittal of potentially affected recall vehicles in their stock inventory.

Vehicle Identification Numbers of affected vehicles and owner's names and addresses will be available on or before October 11, 2000. Mailing labels will be made for customer notification of the recall.



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VII. Furnish Recall Communications

Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and followup) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A *Draft* copy of the notification should be submitted to Fax No. (202-366-7882) for review, prior to mailing.

Foretravel, Inc., is attaching a 'DRAFT' Customer Notification Letter, and will forward copies of this to NHTSA as soon as they are available for review and approval by NHTSA.



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SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN REPLY SHEET

Customer Name: _____

Date Work Performed: _____

NOTE: REPAIR MUST BE COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN #00E048

V.I.N. _____

Service Facility: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

(Check if applicable) I no longer have/own this vehicle.

(Check if applicable) I have inspected the seat belt buckles, *as per drawing enclosed*, and this recall does *not* apply to my vehicle.

THIS SERVICE PROGRAM HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NHTSA SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN #00E-047

Service Manager Signature: _____

Owner's Signature: _____

Please give this form to the Foretravel service representative or complete it and return it to me in the postage-paid envelope. Thankyou for your attention to this matter.

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Foretravel, Inc.

1221 NW Stallings Drive
Nacogdoches, TX 75964

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE



Foretravel, Inc.

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DRAFT

Dear Foretravel U270/U295/U320 and GV320 Series Unicoach/GrandVilla Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Reason For This Recall

Foretravel, Inc. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain ***TRW 20-EDL model ball sockets in the front axle assembly*** on some U270/U295/U320, and GV320 Series Unicoach/GrandVilla motorhomes. These vehicles have the potential for separating due to premature wear in some applications. If the TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assembly were to separate, there could be a loss of vehicle steering control, ***which under certain circumstances***, without warning, could result in a vehicle accident.

What We Will Do

Foretravel dealer service centers ONLY have the necessary parts, tools, equipment, and training necessary for this inspection and correction.

What You Should Do

Contact your Foretravel dealer as soon as possible to arrange a service date for this correction, as we need to ensure the necessary recall replacement kits are there. As previously mentioned, ***ONLY Foretravel dealer service centers*** have the necessary training, tools, parts, and instructions to correct this condition. The labor time necessary to perform the ball-socket replacement is approximately 1 1/2 hours.

When scheduling your service appointment with your Foretravel service center, and have other repairs which need to be made to your motorhome, in addition to this correction of the ball-socket assembly replacement, please arrange this with the service manager, service writer, or shop foreman of the Foretravel service department.



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Your Foretravel dealer is best equipped to provide this service to ensure that your vehicle is corrected as promptly as possible. If, however, you take your vehicle to your Foretravel dealer on the agreed service date, and they do not remedy this condition on that date or within three (3) days, we recommend you contact Foretravel Customer Service by calling: (800) 955-6226; Ext. #254.

After contacting your Foretravel dealer and Foretravel, Inc. Customer Service, if you are still not able to have the safety defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, you may wish to write the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20590 or call 1 - 888 - DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236).

If you have sold or traded your vehicle, please let us know by completing and checking the appropriate box on the attached letter, and forward it in the postage paid return envelope to us.

We strongly urge you to have this matter corrected as soon as possible, but your Foretravel dealer must be contacted so they can order the replacement kits necessary to perform the recall correction.

We are sorry to cause this inconvenience; however, we have taken this action in the interest of your safety and continued satisfaction with your Foretravel Unicoach/Grandvilla motorhome.

**Important Note: Please contact me if you no longer own/have this vehicle at:
(800) 955-6226; Ext. 254.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael C. Packard".

Michael C. Packard
Director of Warranty and Service

October 13, 2000

To: Affected ArvinMeritor Customers

Subject: Campaign Notice: Model 20-EDL Tie Rod End Sockets
manufactured by TRW and shipped to ArvinMeritor from July 5,
1999 through October 18, 1999.

ArvinMeritor File: None NHTSA File: 00E-047

Dear Customer,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the
National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

General Information

On August 30, 2000 TRW notified ArvinMeritor (formerly Meritor
Automotive) that a potential defect exists in certain tie rod ends (designated
Model 20-EDL) that TRW had manufactured and shipped to ArvinMeritor
between July 5, 1999 and October 18, 1999.

Copies of TRW's Notification Letter to ArvinMeritor and ArvinMeritor's
Notification to NHTSA are enclosed.

TRW has recommended that the suspect Model 20-EDL Tie Rod Ends be
replaced.

TRW and ArvinMeritor have agreed that TRW will manage details of the
Campaign directly with affected Original Equipment customers.

TRW can be contacted by calling 1-866-280-3287 between 7 AM and 7
PM EDT.

TRW representatives will assist you by providing additional background
information regarding the issue (if needed), by assisting your and your
customers (vehicle owners) identify suspect parts, and by providing
information about tie rod end replacement claim information (procedures
and status).

October 13, 2000

Page 2

The attached shipment records list the complete axle assemblies that are suspected to contain the defective tie rod ends that ArvinMeritor shipped to "Specialty" axle customers.

ArvinMeritor is continuing to research shipment records that pertain to aftermarket shipments. You may receive a separate notice if your company purchased aftermarket tie rod ends or x-tubes from ArvinMeritor.

Questions or Complaints

If you conclude that ArvinMeritor has not enabled you to remedy this condition in a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the:

**Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590**

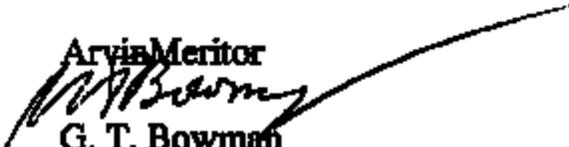
- or -

**Call the toll free Auto Safety Hotline: 1-800-424-9393
(Washington D.C. Residents call 202-366-0123)**

We regret any inconvenience that this situation may cause but assure you that ArvinMeritor's concern is for your continued satisfaction with our products.

Sincerely,

ArvinMeritor



G. T. Bowman

Manager, Product Integrity and Reliability

copy: NHTSA

September, 2000

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590
Attention: Associate Administrator of Enforcement

Subject: Defect Information Report, in accordance with 49 CFR 573.5
Ref: NHTSA 00E-047
TRW's August 30, 2000 Notification to ArvinMeritor

Certain TRW 20-EDL Model Ball Sockets Manufactured and Sold from July 5,
1999 Through October 3, 1999

ArvinMeritor File: None

NHTSA File: 00E-047 (TRW)

Gentlemen:

This Defect Information Report is submitted by ArvinMeritor (formerly Meritor Automotive) in accordance with the requirements of The National Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 as set forth in 49 CFR 573.5. This information is presented to correspond to the sub paragraphs of section 573.5 (c).

(1) This report is submitted by

ArvinMeritor
2135 West Maple Road
Troy, Michigan 48064

(2) This report pertains to certain Model 20_EDL Ball Sockets Manufactured by TRW and shipped to ArvinMeritor from July 5, 1999 through October 18, 1999.

ArvinMeritor has determined that the earliest affected axle assemblies were manufactured on July 5, 1999 based ArvinMeritor's analysis of the receipt and use of the tie rod end shipment records that were attached to TRW's August 30, 2000 Notification to ArvinMeritor.

September, 2000

Page 2

ArvinMeritor has determined that the last affected axle assemblies using the affected tie rod ends were manufactured in mid-November, 1999. ArvinMeritor's analysis estimates that the last suspect material would have been installed in axle assemblies by this date.

(3) ArvinMeritor estimates that approximately 53,000 axle assemblies are affected.

(4) The percentage of actually defective assemblies is unknown.

(5) ArvinMeritor has relied on the information contained in TRW's Notification.

(6) In late May 2000, ArvinMeritor received a report of that a TRW tie rod end had separated in service. Meritor promptly informed TRW who conducted the ensuing investigation.

(7) This issue does not involve non-compliance with a motor vehicle standard.

(8) In order to address this issue, ArvinMeritor intends to notify the affected purchasers and advise them to follow TRW's recommendations for repair.

Following is an approximate schedule for the program:

September, 2000 Complete Notification to Affected Original Equipment
Axle Assembly Purchasers

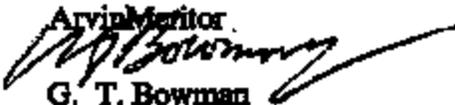
October, 2000 Complete Notification to Affected Aftermarket
Purchasers

Refer to TRW schedule for other scheduled activities.

We trust that the information provided in this document is fully responsive to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.5. All additions or modifications to any of the information given will be reported promptly to NHTSA. Any questions with respect to the information provided should be directed to the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,

ArvinMeritor


G. T. Bowman

Manager, Product Integrity



TRW Automotive
Commercial Steering Systems

P.O. Box 60
Lafayette, IN 47902-0060
317.423.5377
Fax 317.423.1868
SHIP 800 Heath Street, 47904

August 30, 2000

Sent via facsimile and express mail

Mr. Michael Barnett
Mr. Tom Bowman
ArvinMeritor Inc.
2135 West Maple Road
Troy, MI 48048

Re: Certain TRW 20-EDL Model Ball-sockets Manufactured and Sold from July 5, 1999 Through October 3, 1999. NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 00E-047

Dear Mr. Barnett and Mr. Bowman:

TRW Commercial Steering Systems (TRW) has determined that a potential defect exists which relates to motor vehicle safety in certain TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assemblies manufactured from July 5, 1999 through October 3, 1999.

The TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assemblies may separate due to premature wear in some applications. If the TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assembly were to separate, there could be a loss of vehicle steering control in some applications.

TRW recommends that the suspect TRW 20-EDL ball-socket assemblies be replaced in some applications. TRW can provide assistance in making this determination. Affected vehicles should be repaired as soon as feasible. The repairs should be completed by a vehicle manufacturer's authorized repair facility.

Identification of Affected Parts.

This recall relates to TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assemblies manufactured and sold to ArvinMeritor, Inc. by TRW during the period from July 5, 1999 through October 3, 1999. The suspect TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assemblies have TRW manufacturing date codes of 9G1, 9G2, 9G3, 9G4, 9H1, 9H2, 9H3, 9H4, 9H5, 9J1, 9J2, 9J3, and 9J4. Exhibit A contains a list of the TRW parts sold to ArvinMeritor, Inc. that may contain the suspect TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assemblies.

Replacement Parts

The remedy for the suspect TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket assemblies will be to replace them with the appropriate size TRW DL ball-socket assemblies. Vehicle manufacturers may purchase replacement DL ball-sockets directly from TRW.

~~Mr. Michael Barnett~~

Mr. Tom Bowman

August 30, 2000

Page 2 of 6

TRW DL ball-socket assemblies can be purchased as individual TRW DL ball-socket assemblies, or as service kits. The service kits for tie-rods will contain two TRW DL ball-socket assemblies and a service bulletin. The TRW part number for the 24-DL ball-socket assembly tie-rod service kit is L24KP0018. The TRW part number for the 20-DL ball-socket assembly tie-rod service kit is L20KP0006. Replacement TRW DL ball-socket assemblies and service kits will be available for purchase after September 8, 2000.

For suspect TRW 20-BDL model socket assemblies that may have been sold as service parts, TRW is preparing two additional service kits. One service kit will have a TRW 20-DL ball-socket assembly with right hand stem threads (part number L20KP0006) and the other service kit will have a TRW 20-DL ball-socket assembly with left-hand stem threads (part number L20KP0007). Both kits will contain a service bulletin.

TRW will ship replacement service kits directly to locations that ArvinMeritor, Inc. or the vehicle manufacturer specifies. TRW and ArvinMeritor, Inc. will determine the best method for handling freight charges.

Labor and Handling Allowance

TRW will allow up to one and one-tenth (1.1) hours labor for each tie-rod service kit installed (two tie-rod ends) and toe-in adjustment made by an OEM authorized dealer or fleet at the dealer or fleets normal hourly rate. Handling charges should not exceed 30% of the dealer's net cost of parts.

Removed Material Disposition

To obtain reimbursement for cost of parts, labor, handling, and expenses associated with installing the service kits, the dealers should follow existing procedures for standard warranty. TRW requires the dealers or fleets to destroy the replaced parts by grinding the stem threads to the point where the ball-socket assembly can no longer be used. The removed tie-rod ends should then be scrapped. The dealer or fleet should complete the instructions included with the service kit and then file a warranty claim. TRW will accept warranty claims directly from the vehicle manufacturers.

Claims for Credit

Warranty claims for installing the service kits associated with this notice should contain the following information:

- Reference to NHTSA Campaign ID Number 00E-047 or vehicle manufacture campaign number.
- 17-digit vehicle identification number (VIN).
- Vehicle owner's name, address, and telephone number.
- Vehicle in-service date.
- Vehicle repair date.
- Vehicle mileage at the time of repair.
- Repairing facility name, address, and telephone number.
- Total labor hours required performing the work, not to exceed 1.1 hours.
- Repair facilities hourly labor rate.

Note: Failure to provide complete information may delay processing of the warranty claim.

Mr. Michael Barnett
Mr. Tom Bowman
August 30, 2000
Page 3 of 6

Questions and Request for Literature

TRW has prepared two service bulletins to assist dealers and fleets with replacing suspect TRW 20-EDL ball-socket assemblies. Service manual number LNK-112 is for tie rod end replacement. Service Bulletin number LNK-114 is for replacing service sockets. Any questions or requests for TRW service bulletins should be directed to

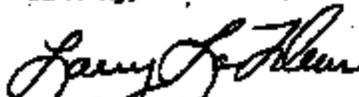
Mike Davis
TRW Commercial Steering Systems
P.O. Box 60
Lafayette, IN 47902
765.429.1715 (765)714-2728 CELL

TRW will have a toll free telephone number available after September 8, 2000 to assist dealers and fleets with questions regarding this field action. The number will be 866.280.3287.

Please call me if you would like to discuss any provisions of this letter.

We regret any inconvenience that this situation may cause. TRW wants to assure ArvinMeritor, Inc. that TRW is concerned for customer safety and your continued satisfaction with our products.

Sincerely,


Larry LaFleur
Director Operations

Attachment: List of Part Numbers

AFFECTED SHIPMENT HISTORY - NEWARK FACILITY
JULY thru NOVEMBER - 1999

Shipment No.	Product	Ship Date	Lot	Plant	Lot	Plant	Plant
NKA99044214	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044217	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044218	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044219	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044220	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044221	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044222	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044224	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044212	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044218	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044216	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044213	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044228	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044223	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044211	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044229	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044227	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044226	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99044225	FG941CAX888	28-Jul-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053545	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053549	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053537	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053548	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053545	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053547	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053551	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053555	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053554	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053552	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053553	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053546	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053538	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053539	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053540	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053541	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053544	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053542	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053550	FG941CAX888	10-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053442	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053436	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053432	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053433	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053434	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053435	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053441	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053431	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053437	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053438	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053428	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053444	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053443	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053445	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053447	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99053439	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	19 / 19	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454

AFFECTED SHIPMENT HISTORY - NEWARK FACILITY
JULY thru NOVEMBER - 1999

NKA99058446	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058440	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058430	FG941CAX888	30-Sep-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058460	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058459	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058458	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058457	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058456	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058461	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058455	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058454	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058470	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058463	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058466	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058465	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058467	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058468	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058466	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058464	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058482	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058471	FG941CAX888	05-Nov-99	18 / 18	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454
NKA99058472	FG941CAX888	11-Nov-99	1 / 1	F8041A	FORTRVL	8891	A2 3102V3454

76

TRW Automotive
Steering & Suspension Systems

Service Bulletin #LNK-112

EDL Socket Replacement (Tie Rods)

Released September, 2000

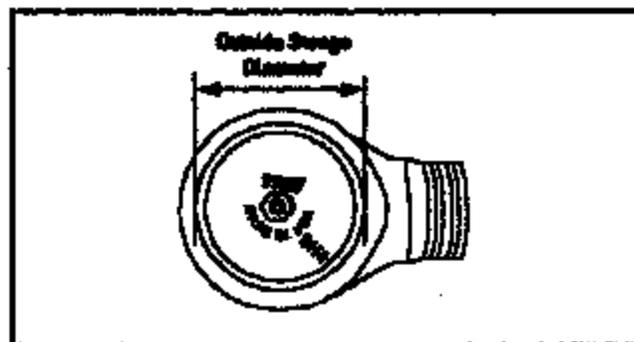
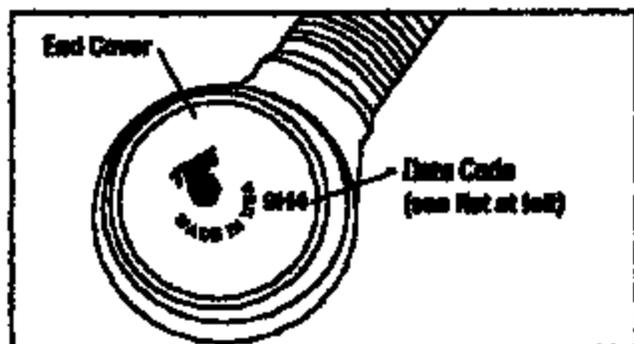


IF The chassis number of the truck is on the list identified by the OE manufacturer. Any chassis number not on the list is not part of the campaign.

AND The date code on either socket end is any of the following: 9G1, 9G2, 9G3, 9G4, 9H1, 9H2, 9H3, 9H4, 9H5, 9J1, 9J2, 9J3 OR 9J4. If the date code begins with any number other than "9", it is not part of the campaign. If the letter is "A-F" or "K-M", it is not part of the campaign.

AND The sockets are "20 size" sockets. To identify the size: Measure the outside swage diameter. A 20 size socket will measure approx. 1 7/8". Any socket measuring 2 1/8" is a "24 size" socket, and is not part of the campaign.

THEN Both socket ends need to be replaced using this kit.



NOTE: Only 20 size sockets are subject to this campaign. Make sure you are servicing the correct size socket.

NOTE: Any socket with "DL" stamped into the end cover is a different design, and IS NOT part of this campaign.

Please continue to page 2 if ALL of the above conditions are met.

NOTE: Any socket with "DL" stamped into the end cover is a different design, and IS NOT part of this campaign.

Remove the Tie Rod Assembly

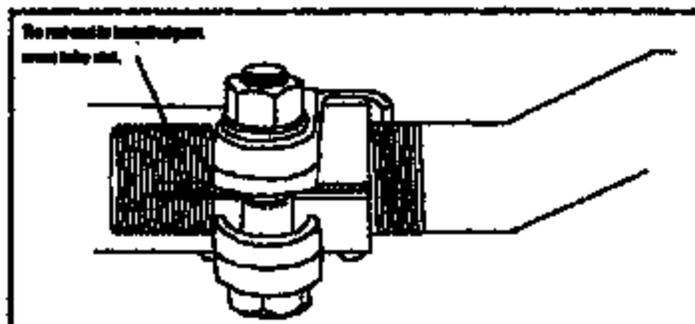
WARNING To prevent serious eye injury, always wear safe eye protection when you perform vehicle maintenance or service.

1. Remove the cotter pins and the nuts on both sides of the axle that fasten each tie rod end to the tie rod arms.
2. Disconnect the cross tube assembly from the tie rod arms using a ball joint separator (pickle fork).

WARNING Do not heat the arms to remove the tie rod assembly. Doing so will soften and damage the parts.

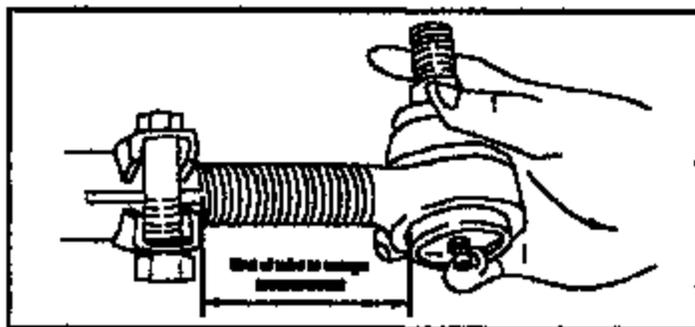
WARNING Always support the tie rod assembly so that it does not fall and become damaged or cause personal injury when separated from the steering knuckles.

3. Remove one threaded tie rod end from the cross tube.
4. Install the new socket end. Thread the new socket end into the tube until the measurement from the end of the tube to the nearest outside swage diameter is the same as you measured in step 2.
5. Repeat steps 5 & 6 for the other socket end.
6. Make sure both ends are threaded into the tube deeper than the cross tube slot as shown below.



Remove and Replace the Tie Rod Ends

1. Note the position of the bolt and nut in the clamp, and the position of the clamp relative to the ground.
2. On one end, measure from the end of the tube to the nearest outside swage diameter as shown below. Record the measurement.



3. Measure the length of the tie rod from the outside of the swage diameter on one socket end to the outside of the swage diameter on the other socket end, as shown below. Record the measurement.



4. Loosen the clamp bolts on the cross tube.

WARNING If the clamp is tack-welded, do not remove the tack weld. If the tack weld is removed, clamping force will not be enough to keep the socket threads stationary. Loss of steering control will result. If welds are broken, the cross tube must be replaced.

5. Measure the length of the tie rod again, and make sure it is the same as you measured in step 3. Sight down the tie rod and make sure socket ends are aligned.
6. If the clamp is not tack-welded, seat the tabs on the clamps against the end of the cross tube. Position the bolts as noted earlier. Tighten the clamps and torque to manufacturer's specifications.

Install the Tie Rod Assembly onto the Axle

1. Clean and dry the tie rod end taper and the tie rod arm taper hole. Connect the tie rod ends into the tie rod arms.
2. Install both tie rod end nuts to secure the tie rod end and cross tube assembly linkage to the tie rod arm. Torque the nuts to the vehicle manufacturer's specifications.
3. Install the cotter pins. If necessary, tighten the castle nut until the holes are aligned. Do not loosen the nut to install the cotter pin.
4. Sight down the tie rod again, to make sure the sockets are aligned with one-another. Also make sure the clamps are positioned relative to the ground as earlier noted.

Check Vehicle Toe-In

1. Check the toe-in measurements. Adjust as appropriate according to the manufacturer's guidelines.



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September 27, 2001

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590
Attention: Associate Administrator of Enforcement

Re.: Amendment to October, 2000, Defect Information Report, filed in accordance with 49 CFR § 573.5, regarding certain Model 20-EDL Ball Sockets Manufactured by TRW and Sold to ArvinMeritor, the company supplying Foretravel, Incorporated, with front-axle assemblies.

NHTSA File: 00E-047 (TRW)
00V-248 (Foretravel)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Foretravel, Incorporated, submits this amendment to its October, 2000, Defect Information Report in accordance with the requirements of The National Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 as set forth in 49 CFR §573.5.

The attached Amended 573 documents illustrate an increase of the original population of potentially affected units from 78 to total 113, an increase of 37 units.

As stated in the attached documents, Foretravel will notify owners of record by mail the first week of October, 2001, and update our servicing dealer database to coincide with the increase.

Should you have any questions whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact me at (936) 564-8367; Extension #254.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael C. Packard'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael C. Packard
Director of Warranty and Service



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I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall
Assigned NHTSA Recall #00E-047 (00V-246)—Amendment

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Foretravel **Model Years Involved:** 2000-2001
Model(s): U270/U295/U320/GV320

Production Dates: Beginning: August 4, 1999 **Ending:** November 10, 2000

VIN Range: Beginning: 1F97D5366YN054033 **Ending:** 1F98D5367IN054259

Vehicle Type: Class "A" motorhome **Bodystyle:** Unicoach/GrandVilla

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall: Collation of V.I.N.'s with regarded model and serial numbers of affected recalled component axle assemblies.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents: 40 percent



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II. Identify the Recall Population (Amended)

Total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

**Number: 113 Model: Unicoach/GrandVilla Models U270/U295/U320/GV320
Year: 2000-2001**

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 113

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: Unknown at present time

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined—in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles: Foretravel, Incorporated, purchased a lot of 113 front-axle assemblies from June, 1999 through June, 2000 from ArvinMeritor, the vendor-supplier. They notified us about the potential safety defect, as well as the amended expanded population.

Manufacturing dates of potentially affected Foretravel units are from August 4, 1999 through November 10, 2000.



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III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance (Amended)

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

TRW Commercial Steering Systems (TRW) is the supplier for the TRW 2-EDL Model Ball-sockets to ArvinMeritor, the company that assembles and supplies the front axle assemblies for the Foretravel Class "A" motorhomes, has determined the defect is such that on some applications, the ball-socket assemblies may separate due to premature wear.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

ArvinMeritor has determined the defect exists in certain Model 20 EDL Ball Sockets Manufactured by TRW and shipped to ArvinMeritor from June 14, 1999 through November 11, 1999. ArvinMeritor has determined that the last affected axle assemblies using the affected tie rod ends were manufactured in mid-November, 1999. ArvinMeritor's analysis estimates that the last suspect material would have been installed in axle assemblies by this date which were shipped to Foretravel, Incorporated.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

In late May, 2000, ArvinMeritor received a report that a TRW tie rod end had separated in service. ArvinMeritor promptly informed TRW who conducted the ensuing investigation.

This issue does not involve non-compliance with a motor vehicle standard.

**Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.
Affected tie rod end could fail without warning.**

Axle Assembly Supplied to Foretravel, Incorporated by:

ArvinMeritor
2135 West Maulk Road
Troy, MI 48064-7186
Internet: www.arvinmeritorinc.com



Foretravel, Inc.

1221 NW Stallings Drive
Nacogdoches, Texas 75964
936.564.8367 Fax 936.564.0391
www.foretravel.com

Ball Socket Assembly Supplied to ArvinMeritor by:

TRW Commercial Steering Systems

P.O. Box 60

Lafayette, IN 47902-0060

(317) 423-5377

(317) 429-1868 FAX

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

**Marlene Vorhees, Director, Quality
ArvinMeritor**

**Larry LaFleur, Director Operations
TRW Commercial Steering Systems**

M O T O R H O M E S O F D I S T I N C T I O N



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IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance (Amended)

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

There have been no reports of accidents, injuries, fires, crashes, or fatalities with regard to this defect, as reported to Foretravel, Incorporated, by ArvinMeritor or TRW Commercial Steering Systems.

8/2001—Obtained letter from ArvinMeritor that indicated additional manufacturing dates of the front axles with the TRW tie rod ends, and letter attached from TRW Commercial Steering Systems: NHTSA Recall Number 00E-047—(00V-246). Foretravel, Incorporated, initiated a collation effort to mobilize staff to research and identify the additional units containing the potentially defective tie rod ends with the current owner/location—Amended Total of 113 axles containing the recalled component were recorded.

8-9/2001—Researched data base and records to identify total of 113 affected axles and collated with respective unit V.I.N.'s. As existing kits are received, these will be shipped out to the respective Foretravel Service Center performing the recall campaign. Foretravel, Incorporated, has already contacted the service managers by Certified Mail.

9/25/2001—Contacted NHTSA after gathering data to inquire about technical aspects for submitting an Amendment to current Assigned Recall.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

N/A



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V. Identify the Remedy (Amended)

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance.

Same as indicated in initial October 24, 2000, 573 Submission by Foretravel, Incorporated to NHTSA, (on file at NHTSA).

Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Remedied assembly will be to replace the suspect TRW 20-EDL model ball-socket Assemblies with the appropriate size TRW DL ball-socket assemblies.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

The ArvinMeritor front axle assembly containing the potentially defective component was discontinued by TRW which supplied it to ArvinMeritor.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications (Amended)

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.

Same as indicated in initial October 24, 2000, 573 Submission by Foretravel, Incorporated to NHTSA, (on file at NHTSA, and previously approved by NHTSA.

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.