



January 3, 2001

RECEIVED
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OFFICE
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Mr. Jon White
Office Defects Investigation
National Hwy. Traffic Safety Admin.
400 Seventh St. S.W., Room 5319
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. White:

Enclosed are copies of the quarterly reports submitted to Section 5735 of Part 573 Code of Federal Regulations/National Traffic Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has started a recall campaign.

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has been informed that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in Minnie, Spirit, Minnie Winnie, Sundancers, Brave, Brave SE, Sunrise, Sunrise SE, Adventurers, Suncruisers, Chieftains, Sunflyers, Winnebago Journey™, Itasca Horizons, Ultimate Advantages, and Ultimate Freedom. Lap belts with a defective buckle may be installed in motor homes built between January 14, 2000 and September 15, 2000. Some belt assemblies shipped to Winnebago had damaged or deformed areas on the pawl. The deformation is such that during engagement, the connector may be unable to transfer the load to the buckle. In some cases, this can cause the buckle to unlatch and leave the occupant unrestrained.

Winnebago Industries started the notification on October 20, 2000 and it was completed on November 3, 2000. Copies of the letters and instructions are enclosed.

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has started a recall campaign. 00V-378

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain Winnebago motor homes equipped with Freightliner chassis. These vehicles were manufactured between October 2, 1999 and July 25, 2000. The front axle and/or front tires of the vehicle may encounter unequal side-to-side loading due to inappropriate loading or the leveling device of the vehicle becoming improperly adjusted. Should this occur, one or more of the front axle components may fail and personal injury and/or property damage may result.

Winnebago Industries started the notification on December 8, 2000 and it was completed on December 22, 2000. Copies of the letters and instructions are enclosed.

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has finished three consecutive quarterly reports on Recall 00V-052. Enclosed is the list of incomplete units on this recall.

This information is for your files.

Sincerely,

Donna L. Bindel
Recall Coordinator

WR84/1

Enclosures



TO: Winnebago Industries, Inc. Dealers

SUBJECT: Campaign #77 - Overload of Front Tires

The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, as amended, provides that each vehicle which is subject to a recall campaign of this type must be adequately repaired within a reasonable time after the owner has tendered it for repair. A failure to adequately repair within 60 days after tender of a vehicle is prima facie evidence of failure to repair within a reasonable time.

If the condition is not adequately repaired within a reasonable time, the owners may be entitled to an identical or reasonably equivalent vehicle at no charge or to a refund of the purchase price less a reasonable allowance for depreciation.

To avoid having to provide these burdensome solutions, every effort must be made to promptly schedule an appointment with each owner and to repair their vehicle as soon as possible. As you will see in reading the enclosed copy of the letter which is being sent to owners, the owners are being instructed to contact Winnebago Industries, Inc. if you do not remedy the condition within five days of the mutually agreed upon service date. If the condition is not remedied within a reasonable time, they are instructed on how to contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain Winnebago motor homes equipped with Freightliner chassis. These vehicles were manufactured between October 2, 1999 and July 25, 2000. The front axle and/or front tires of the vehicle may encounter unequal side-to-side loading due to inappropriate loading or the vehicles leveling device becoming improperly adjusted. Should this occur one or more of the front axle components may fail and personal injury and/or property damage may result.

OWNER NOTIFICATION

Winnebago Industries, Inc will notify owners of these vehicles. For all units in your inventory, the notification will be mailed to you. **DO NOT DELIVER TO A CUSTOMER ANY SUBJECT UNIT UNTIL CORRECTIVE ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN.** Enclosed is a list of vehicles shipped to you.

DEALER CAMPAIGN RESPONSIBILITY

Dealers are to service all vehicles subject to this campaign at no charge to owners regardless of mileage, age of vehicle, or ownership from this time forward.

Whenever a vehicle subject to this campaign is taken into new or used inventory, or it is in your dealership for service in the future, you should take the steps to be sure the campaign correction has been made before reselling or releasing the vehicle. Owners of vehicles recently sold from your new vehicle inventory are to be contacted by the dealer, and arrangements made to make the required correction according to instructions contained in this campaign.

DB366/4

INSTRUCTION TO PERFORM CAMPAIGN #77

Affected Models:

All 1999 and 2000 models with the designation of UKQ40J built between October 2, 1999 and July 25, 2000.

Repair Procedure:

See attached repair procedures for both the I-beam axle and the independent front suspension axle.

Parts Information:

Order the appropriate kit listed below from the Winnebago Parts Administrator at 800/556-9670. When ordering, use Dealer Number 7647. Please provide the Winnebago serial number when requesting kits c kits will not be sent.

INDEPENDENT FRONT SUSPENSION AXLE KIT #131488-01-700

2 Michelin Tires
1 TRW Steering Gear Service Kit

I-BEAM AXLE KIT #131488-01-701

2 Michelin Tires
2 Front Axle Air Springs
1 One 2-Part Adhesive Cartridge
1 TRW Steering Gear Service Kit

REIMBURSEMENT

When the service has been completed, fill out your repair order that has the labor amount and labor operation number listed below. Both the dealer and owner must properly sign the repair order before it is submitted to Winnebago Industries, Inc.

	<u>LABOR OPERATION NUMBER</u>	<u>TIME ALLOWANCE</u>
INDEPENDENT FRONT SUSPENSION AXLE REPAIR	<u>24770101</u>	<u>2.5 Hours</u>
I-BEAM AXLE REPAIR	<u>24770201</u>	<u>4.0 Hours</u>

Thank you for your cooperation.

Winnebago Industries, Inc.
Forest City, Iowa 50436

DBJ66/5

INSTRUCTIONS TO PERFORM CAMPAIGN #77

Replacement of Front Tires and Air Springs on a Limited Number of Ultimate Advantage Motorhomes with I-Beam Front Axle

PROCEDURE

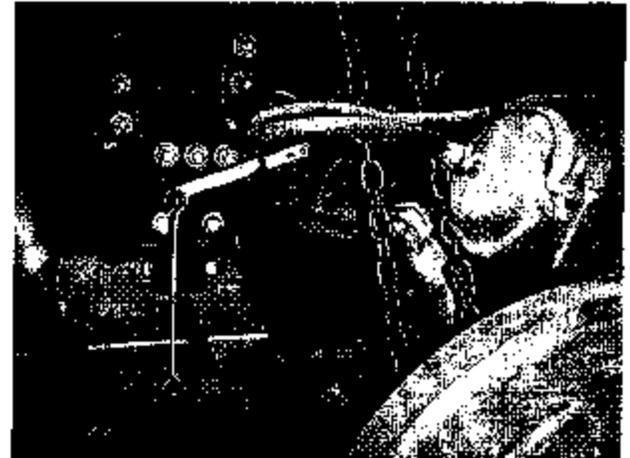
The basic procedure involves replacing the front air springs with larger capacity air springs, then replacing the existing front tires with wider tires. Finally, a poppet valve kit must be installed in the steering gear and adjusted to TRW specifications.

Step 1 – Remove and Replace Front Axle Air Springs

- Raise the coach on a hoist and support the frame to allow lowering the front axle assembly. (See photo 1 for example).



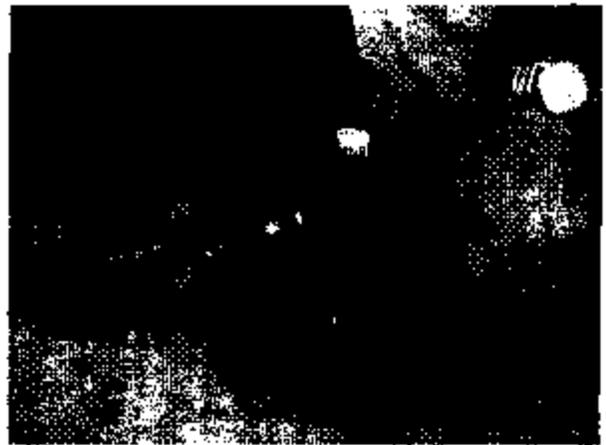
Remove the front air springs as shown in photo 2. Pry bar may be necessary to loosen base from axle.



- Remove the air spring bladder from the base as shown in photo 3. Keep bolts in existing locations.
 - Remount base to new, larger air spring bladder.
- NOTE: V-notch in base and air fitting on top of spring bladder should be oriented to inboard side of frame.



- Remove the air fitting from the old bladder and install onto the new one. Use thread sealer to avoid air pressure leaks. Hose input faces forward (both LH and RH sides).



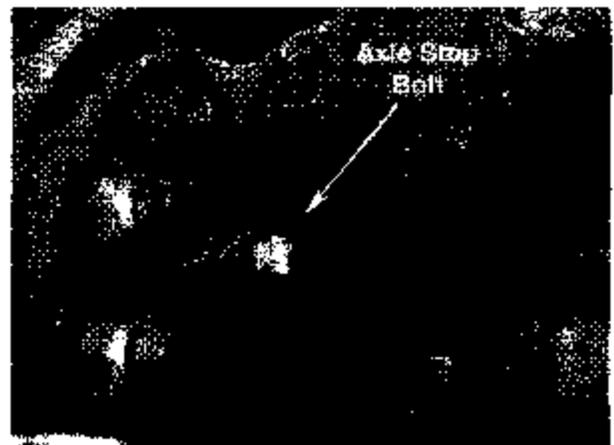
- When installing new air spring, align centering pin on axle with hole in base of air spring as shown.



Step 2 – Remove and Replace Front Tires

- Remove existing front tires and replace with new 275/80R22.5 Michelin™ LRG XZE tires.
- Be careful not to mar surfaces of the aluminum rims.
- Balance tires before installing onto coach.
- Torque wheel nuts to proper specs according to number of bolts.

8-Bolt:	280 – 310 Ft. Lbs.
10-Bolt:	450 – 500 Ft. Lbs.
- Be sure decorative 'acorn nut' caps are replaced securely.
- Adjust axle stop bolt on inboard side of brake plate (both LH and RH sides) so that there is 1"– 1 ¼" clearance between tire and chassis components to avoid rubbing. (see photo).
- Torque the stop bolt jam nuts 50–65 ft.lbs.

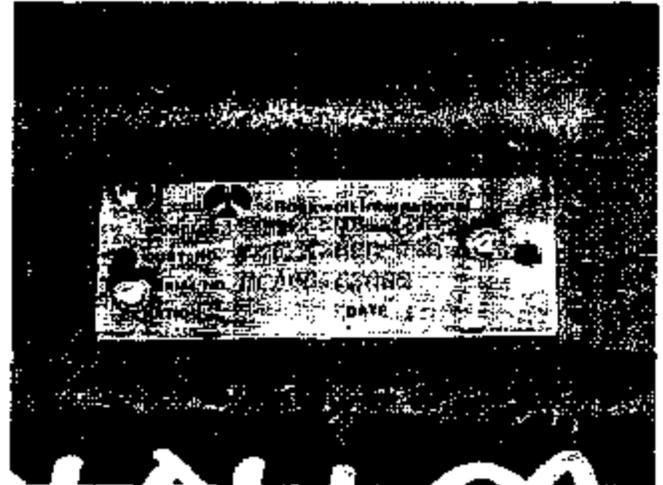


Step 3 – Install and Adjust Poppet Valve in Steering Gear Assembly

- Follow the accompanying instructions from TRW to adjust steering gear poppet settings.

Step 4 – Replace Axle Data Plate

- Remove the existing data plate from the front side of the axle using a chisel or other appropriate means.
- Clean and prepare the axle surface for application of adhesive in the same location as the data plate removed in the previous step.
- Mix an adequate amount of the 2-part epoxy adhesive provided to generously coat the backside of the new data plate provided. (Mix epoxy for 1 minute before applying, then apply immediately)
- Affix the new data plate in the same area as the old data plate. Allow epoxy to squeeze out through mounting holes and moderately around perimeter of plate.
- Use duct tape as necessary to hold new data plate in place until epoxy cures.



Step 5 – Replace Vehicle Certification Label and Weight Data Sheet Inside Coach

- Remove the existing Vehicle Certification Label from the lower inside driver door. Replace with new label provided and cover with clear overlay also provided.
Locate the weight data sheet inside the coach (typically inside wardrobe or cupboard doors) and remove from wall or door. Replace with updated sheet provided. Also replace the duplicate weight sheet and vehicle certification label located in the Owner's InfoCase.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPAIRING INDEPENDENT FRONT SUSPENSION AXLE

1. Set the parking brake and chock the rear wheels.
2. Raise the front axle and remove the front tire/wheel assemblies.
3. Remove existing tires from wheels and replace with new Michelin tires. Balance tires before installing on vehicle. Old tires must be discarded.
4. Install new tire/wheel assemblies onto vehicle and torque lug nuts to the following:

8-Bolt wheels	280-310 foot-pounds
10-Bolt wheels	450-500 foot-pounds
5. Locate the front axle stops and loosen the jamb nuts. Unscrew the axle stop bolt. Turn the steering wheel completely to the left and adjust the axle stop bolt until there is 1" to 1¼" clearance between the left front tire and the steering linkage. Turn the steering wheel completely to the right and adjust the axle stop bolt until there is 1" to 1¼" clearance between the right front tire and the lower shock-mounting bolt. Torque the jam nuts to 50-65 foot-pounds.
6. **STEERING GEAR POPPET ADJUSTMENT** - See instructions included in the package containing the TRW Steering Gear Service Kit.
7. Remove one weight sheet from the owner's packet and one from the wall located in the wardrobe. Place one new weight sheet in the owner's packet and install one new weight sheet on the wall of the wardrobe in the same location as the previous weight sheet. Discard old weight sheets.
8. Remove the existing certification label from the owner's packet and insert new certification label in its place. Place the other new certification label over the existing certification label located at or near the driver's left foot.

DB366/6



605 West Crystal Lake Rd
Forest City, Iowa 50436
PH: 641/585-3335 FAX: 641/585-6966

DECEMBER 22, 2000

RECALL 77

RE: BODY SERIAL
CHASSIS SERIAL

Dear Owner:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Our records indicate that you have purchased a vehicle with the serial number/VIN that appears above.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

Winnebago Ind., Inc. has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain Winnebago motor homes. These vehicles were manufactured between October 2, 1999 and July 25, 2000. The front axle and/or front tires of the vehicle may encounter unequal side-to-side loading due to inappropriate loading or the vehicles leveling device becoming improperly adjusted. Should this occur one or more of the front axle components may fail and personal injury and/or property damage may result.

WHAT WE WILL DO

Winnebago Industries, Inc. will correct this overloading condition by replacing defective components including tires, where necessary, with appropriate components.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

Please contact your Winnebago Industries, Inc. dealer immediately to arrange for an appointment. Please allow sufficient time for your dealer to obtain the correct components to repair your vehicle. Also, please allow time for your dealer to process your vehicle.

Winnebago Industries, Inc. dealers are best equipped to obtain parts and provide service to ensure your vehicle is corrected as promptly as possible. HOWEVER, if you take your vehicle to the dealer on the agreed date and he does not service this condition on that date or within five days, we recommend you contact Winnebago Industries, Inc., Attention: Owner Relations Representative (641/585-6939). If you are

Page two

still unable to obtain such installation without charge to you and within a reasonable time, you may contact the Administrator, N.H.T.S.A., Washington, DC 20590, or call toll free, Auto Safety Hot Line, 888/327-4236.

Presentation of this letter to the service center will assist in making the necessary correction to your vehicle in the shortest possible time. If you have sold or traded your vehicle, please let us know by completing the postage-paid owner reply card and returning it to us.

We are sorry to cause you this inconvenience; however, we have taken this action in the interest of your safety and continued satisfaction with our products. This letter does not constitute an acknowledgment of legal liability.

Winnebago Industries, Inc.
Forest City, Iowa 50436

Enclosure