

00V-358.001 (2)

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On October 19, 2000, NBS2000 Dexter Axle (NPR) decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety) ~~(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108)~~ 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: October 30, 2000

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): #00E-044

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer/brand name/trademark owner of the recalled item of equipment. If the recalled item of equipment is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Dexter Axle
2900 Industrial Parkway East
Elkhart, IN 46815

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

William Dunlop
Director of Engineering, Service and Warranty

Telephone Number: 800-400-2164 Fax No.: 219-295-8466

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report,
Michael Glazier
Vice President, Customer Service

Signed: Michael Glazier

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NHTSA

¹Each manufacturer must furnish a report to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 365-5226 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

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): Alpenlite **Model Years Involved:** 1998 **Model(s):** AFS34RLB

Production Dates: Beginning: 05/20/98 **Ending:** Some

VIN Range: Beginning: 1WE3ATR22WY029367 **Ending:** Some

Vehicle Type: Trailer **Bodystyle:** Fifth-Wheel

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

VIN identifies specific unit.

Make(s): Alpenlite **Model Years Involved:** 2001 **Model(s):** AFS32RK

Production Dates: Beginning: 06/13/00 **Ending:** Some

VIN Range: Beginning: 1WE3ATR291Y032530 **Ending:** Some

Vehicle Type: Trailer **Bodystyle:** Fifth-Wheel

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

VIN identifies specific unit.

Make(s): _____ **Model Years Involved:** _____ **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

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. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1995 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period. 2 / 1,712 = 0.12%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved	Year	Number
1	1998	
1	2001	

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 2

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 2 of 2 = 100%

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:

Affected axles were installed only on one pre-type unit and on one service repair unit.

Coach files contained reference to Nav-R-Lube axle installations.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

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.

Western RV agrees with the information provided by Dexter Axle in the Notice of Product Recall.

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

Same as above.

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

Same as above.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

Same as above.

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

Same as above.

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

Same as above.

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

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.

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.

Western RV agrees with the Dexter Axle information.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Same as above.

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

Same as above.

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.

Same as above.

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.

Dexter Axle has agreed to notify two customers to initiate corrective action.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

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 (202-368-7822) for review prior to mailing.

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



001-358.001 (08)

October 19, 2000

Dexter Axle
Attn: William Dunlap
2900 Industrial Parkway East
P.O. Box 250
Elkhart, IN 46515

Dear Mr. Dunlap,

WRV has received the Notice of Product Recall of October 9, notifying us of a defect in the Nev-R-Lube axle. According to our production and warranty records, two sets of axles that were manufactured during the designated time period have been installed on ALPENLITE fifth wheels.

In response to your request, the names, addresses and vehicle identification numbers of the two vehicles are listed below. It is my understanding that Dexter will contact each owner and will be responsible for corrective action needed to rectify the defect.

VIN #1W53ATR22WY029367 (Model: AFS 34 RLS)
Dan & Maureen Leonhardt
1520 Evergreen Hills SW
Calgary, CAN AB T2Y 2V8

VIN #1W53ATR291Y032520 (Model: AFS 32 RK)
James Ruddy
569 Atwood Court
Riverside, CA 92506

In accordance with governmental traffic safety regulations, please provide NHTSA with a copy of any correspondence that is sent to a vehicle owner. Thank you for your assistance in this matter and contact me (800-888-4133) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
WESTERN RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, INC.

Michael Glazier
Vice President, Customer Service

cc: Sonny Murianka, NHTSA