



September 6, 2001

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

01V-298 ①of⑥

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 573.5(c).

1. Winnebago Industries, Inc.
605 W. Crystal Lake Road
Forest City, IA 50436
2. The motor vehicles potentially containing defective wheel covers are on certain 2002 model year Rialta® (Models 222FD, 222QD, and 222HD) motor homes. These motor homes were manufactured between February 1, 2001 and June 22, 2001. The vehicles were identified using production records showing models and VINs.
3. The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defective wheel covers is: 396.
4. 100 percent of these vehicles may have defective wheel covers.
5. The wheel cover may rotate while mounted on the wheel. If the cover rotates to the valve stem, a condition exists that could shear the valve stem off.
6. Winnebago Industries, Inc. discovered this wheel cover rotation as a result of a customer contacting us about his situation.
7. N/A.
8. Winnebago Industries, Inc. will remedy this situation by replacing the existing wheel covers with a new design that is aesthetically similar and will replace the "rubber" valve stems with "metal" valve stems. Winnebago Industries, Inc. estimates the dealer letter will be mailed on or about September 28, 2001. The owner letter will be mailed two weeks later.
9. Enclosed is a copy of the dealer letter in draft form.

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10. Enclosed is a copy of the owner letter in draft form as well as a copy of the owner's original notification of a pending recall sent out in June.
11. The recall documents will carry the Winnebago Industries, Inc. Number 84.

Should you have questions regarding this information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,


Dale Jordal
Codes & Standards Coordinator

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Enclosure

c: Ray Beebe
Steve Evenson
Marv Nieman
Donna Bindel

TO: Winnebago Industries, Inc. Dealers

SUBJECT: Campaign #84 - Rialta® Wheel Cover

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 Rialta (Models 222FD, 222QD, and 222HD) motor homes. A defective wheel cover may be installed in motor homes built between February 1, 2001 and June 22, 2001. The wheel cover may rotate while mounted on the wheel. If the cover rotates to the valve stem, a condition exists that could shear the valve stem off, leading to a rapid deflation of the tire. This rapid loss of air in the tire may cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle, resulting in bodily injury and/or property damage.

OWNER NOTIFICATION

Owners will be notified of this campaign on their vehicles by Winnebago Industries, Inc. 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 vehicle inventory, or it is in your dealership for service in the future, you should take the steps necessary 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.



01V-298 ©or®

June 28, 2001

Dear Owner/Dealer:

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has determined a safety defect exists in all 2002 model year Rialtasæ equipped with wheel covers (16" tire). We are asking that you remove and leave off the wheel covers of your 2002 Rialta(s) prior to driving the unit any further.

We have seen evidence that the wheel cover may rotate while mounted on the wheel. If the cover rotates to the valve stem, a condition exists that could shear the valve stem off, leading to a rapid deflation of the tire. This rapid loss of air in the tire may cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle, resulting in bodily injury and/or property damage.

This Bulletin will be followed by a Recall Notice to correct or replace your current wheel covers at no cost to you. Until Winnebago® can identify and remedy the cause of this situation, we ask that you leave your wheel covers off.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Jordal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dale Jordal
Product Safety Administrator

02wheelcover

INSTRUCTION TO PERFORM CAMPAIGN #84

Affected Models:

Certain 2002 222FD, 222QD, and 222HD models built between February 1, 2001 and June 22, 2001.

Repair Procedure:

Refer to instruction sheet for wheel cover and valve stem replacement procedure.

Parts Information:

Order the following Parts Kit by placing a Trip Saver order type '4' on the Win-Net System. Enter "01-Best Way in the " Ship VIA field. You will need to provide the Winnebago Serial number of the affected unit.

Kit Number: **134261-03-784**

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Part Description</u>
1 set	Wheel Covers
3	Valve Stem
3	Valve Extension
1	Instruction Sheet

REIMBURSEMENT

When the service has been completed, file the repair order that has the labor amount and labor operation number listed below. The repair order must be properly signed by both dealer and owner before it is submitted to Winnebago Industries.

	<u>OPERATION NUMBER</u>	<u>TIME ALLOWANCE</u>
REPLACE VALVE STEMS & WHEEL COVERS:	24840101	2 hr.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Winnebago Industries, Inc.
Forest City, Iowa 50436

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Enclosures

**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 which appears above.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

Winnebago Industries, Inc. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Rialta® (Models 222FD, 222QD, and 222HD) motor homes. A defective wheel cover may be installed in motor homes built between February 1, 2001 and June 22, 2001. The wheel cover may rotate while mounted on the wheel. If the cover rotates to the valve stem, a condition exists that could shear the valve stem off, leading to a rapid deflation of the tire. This rapid loss of air in the tire may cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle, resulting in bodily injury and/or property damage.

WHAT WE WILL DO

Winnebago Industries, Inc. dealers will replace the rubber valve stems and wheel covers at no charge to you.

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 kit for this recall. The labor time necessary to perform this correction will be approximately two hours. Please allow time for the 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., Attn.: Owner Relations Representative (641-585-6939). If you are 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

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Enclosure