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July 5, 2006

06V-276
(6 pages)

**VIA FACSIMILE AND
CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL,
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. George Person
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

DEFECT AND NON-COMPLIANCE REPORT
JUL 12 2 3 17
2006

**Re: Airstream, Inc.
Defect and Non-Compliance Report**

Dear Mr. Person:

Enclosed please find the Defect and Non-Compliance Report that I am submitting on behalf of Airstream, Inc. in connection with a pending recall campaign initiated by Dexter Axle Company (Recall No. 06E-029).

If you have any questions regarding the attached documentation, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Daniel A. Bensman

dja

Enclosures

cc: Airstream, Inc. (via e-mail)
Mr. John M. Garmhausen

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Airstream Inc.

Terry Coleman - Director of Codes and Safety
419 W. Pike St., P.O. Box 629, Jackson Center, OH 45334
Phone (937) 596-6111 Ext. 7231
Fax (937) 596-7952

July 5, 2006

**VIA FACSIMILE AND
CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Sir,

Description of Problem

Airstream Inc., 419 W. Pike St., Jackson Center, OH 45334, a manufacturer of travel trailers and Class B motor homes has determined that a problem relating to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2006 and 2007 Airstream Inc. Classic brand travel trailers built between February 2006 and May 2006. This population includes 22 units. The defect relates to disc brake mounting hardware. These travel trailers may have caliper mounting hardware that loosens. Insufficient clamp load between caliper and yoke can cause the caliper to disassemble creating a loss of braking ability, which could result in a vehicle crash without warning. To date, there have been two reported incidences of this condition.

Units Affected

A total of 22 Airstream Classic brand travel trailers are involved in the recall action. All 22 units in the population may have this defect.

Defect Determination

The Airstream Customer Service Department received a telephone call from one of our dealers noting this condition. Customer Service contacted Dexter Axle Company of Elkhart, Indiana, the manufacturer of the axle and disc brake assembly, who sent repair parts to our dealer, who in turn, made the necessary repairs. Service also contacted our Engineering, Safety, Production, Purchasing and Quality Assurance Departments. On April 25, 2006, our Production Department checked every Airstream Classic travel trailer in the production line and in our dispatch lot for this defect. They also began a mandatory check of all disc brake caliper mounting hardware on Classic trailers entering the production line. Our Quality Assurance Department prepared a Supplier Corrective Action Request (SCAR) and sent it to Dexter Axle. As a result of the SCAR, Dexter Axle sent personnel to Airstream to check the disc brake caliper mounting hardware on all uninstalled axles with disc brakes. Dexter Axle found two axles with caliper mounting hardware at the low end of their torque spec. On June 29, 2006, Dexter informed Airstream that they had begun a Recall Campaign (06E-029) for this defect and asked for assistance in identifying the serial numbers of affected Airstream Classic travel trailers.

Proposed Remedy

In cooperation with Dexter Axle, Airstream proposes the following remedy. At no cost to affected Airstream Classic owners, they will be directed to the nearest authorized Dexter Axle Service Center. Dexter Axle will remove the suspect caliper mounting hardware and replace it with new, more robust caliper mounting hardware.

It is estimated that these repairs will take three hours to complete on tandem axle travel trailers.

Customer Notification

The enclosed owner notification letter is being submitted to NHTSA for your preview. Airstream has been informed by Dexter Axle that the NHTSA will allow Dexter Axle to perform the Airstream customer mailing on Airstream letterhead and prepare the quarterly reports. Dexter Axle will also direct affected Airstream owners to the nearest Dexter Axle Service Center for repairs. Airstream will also answer any questions and assist Airstream owners in the recall process.

Dealer Notification

Recall repairs will be performed at authorized Dexter Axle Service Centers. Dexter Axle will inform their dealer network of the recall repairs procedures. I have attached a proposed Awareness Bulletin to Dexter Axle outlining the step-by-step procedure for jacking Airstream Classic travel trailers to avoid damage to the underside of these vehicles.

Campaign Number

Airstream does not have a campaign number for this recall. Airstream will use the identification number assigned by the NHTSA. We ask you to assign this number as soon as possible.

I would appreciate your providing me with a preview determination of the enclosed documents at your earliest convenience. Please contact the undersigned at (937) 596-6111 extension 7231 after you have had an opportunity to review the documents. In my absence, M. Douglas Burch, extension 7239, is authorized to communicate with your agency. I trust you will find the documents comply with the NHTSA regulations and will approve the documents for form and content.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Regards,

s/ Terry Coleman

Terry Coleman
Director of Codes and Safety

Attachments

cc: Mr. Daniel Bensman
Mr. Robert Wheeler
Mr. Walter Bennett
Mr. David Mihalick

AIRSTREAM

419 West Pike Street., P.O. Box 629 Jackson Center, OH 45334-0629
Phone: (937) 596-6111 Fax: (937) 596-8140

Customer
Address
City, State, Zip Code

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

Airstream Inc. Voluntary Recall Campaign: (Campaign No. 06V-XXX)

Vehicles Affected: Certain 2006 and 2007 Airstream Inc. Classic Travel Trailers

Dear Airstream Customer,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Dexter Axle is notifying you of this recall on behalf of Airstream Inc.

Dexter Axle has decided that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain disc brake axles produced between February and May, 2006. These defective disc brake axles have been used by Airstream on certain 2006 and 2007 Airstream Classic travel trailers. Airstream's records indicate that you own one or more of these travel trailers with the following VIN:

[Insert VIN here]

The nature of the defect relates to stripped disc brake mounting hardware. Some of the axles built by Dexter Axle from February through May, 2006 may have caliper mounting hardware that loosens. Insufficient clamp load between clamp and yoke can cause the caliper to disassemble creating a loss of braking ability, which could result in a vehicle crash without warning.

Accordingly, we are entering into a safety recall campaign. The recall campaign will involve the replacement of the caliper mounting hardware which will be performed on your vehicle free of charge.

You can contact Dexter Axle at 1-800-400-2164 to determine the service repair location that is closest to you. The repairs will take approximately three hours (for a tandem axle trailer). Airstream can be contacted at **937-596-6111 Ext. 7418 or 7400** if you have any additional questions.

If you no longer own the affected vehicle or, for any other reason cannot have the recall service work performed, please call the Airstream telephone number set forth above or notify us in writing. If the vehicle has been sold, you will need to provide us with the name and address of the subsequent purchaser if it is known and/or the disposition of the travel trailer.

If you are the lessor of this vehicle, federal law requires that you forward this notice to the lessee within 10 days.

If you believe Dexter Axle has failed to remedy this defect or there has been an unreasonable delay in securing the repair, you may submit a complaint to:

Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration,
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

or call the toll free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 [TTY 1-800-424-9153] or go the NHTSA web site at <http://www.safercar.gov>.

You may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of a problem associated with this recall. For more information contact Airstream at 1-877-596-6505.

We regret any inconvenience this recall may cause but hope you share Airstream's concern for safety and satisfaction with our vehicles.

Terry Coleman
Director of Codes and Safety

AIRSTREAM

AWARENESS BULLETIN

Date: 7/5/06

Subject: Airstream Trailer Wheel Removal Instructions

Attn: Dexter Service Center

Please use the following instructions on jacking up an Airstream trailer for tire removal.

1. To raise a trailer with a jack for tire removal see the label affixed to the trailer underbelly to the rear of the wheels.
2. This label says JACK and has an arrow which points to a 3" x 3" aluminum plate riveted to the mainframe rail.
3. Align the jack head to the plate and raise the trailer until the wheels are off the ground. Be sure the jack head is resting solidly on the plate and mainframe rail before attempting to raise the trailer.

Caution: Placing a jack in any other place on the trailer underbelly could result in damage to the underbelly skin, water tanks and pans, axle damage or alignment problems.

4. Place safety jack stands on the mainframe rail just in front of and behind the axle mounting plate before removing wheels or placing a person under the trailer.

Danger: Failure to follow proper safety procedures could result in property damage and/or serious injury including death.

5. Replace aluminum wheels and torque to 100 ft. lbs.

Please advise customer to follow wheel torque instructions, cautions, and warnings as explained in their Airstream travel trailer owner's manual.

For assistance in wheel removal instructions please contact an Airstream Customer Service representative at the Airstream Customer Service Department.

Airstream Factory Service Center
P.O. Box 629
Jackson Center, Ohio 45334-0629
937-596-6111