



April 29, 2008

RECEIVED  
2008 MAY 19 - 11:30 AM  
OFFICE OF RECALL  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Ms. Kathy DeMeter, Director  
Office of Defects Investigation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.  
400 - 7<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590

08V-223  
(5 Pages)

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Winnebago Industries<sup>®</sup> 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.  
P.O. Box 152  
Forest City, IA 50436
2. The motor vehicles potentially containing the defective component are: Certain 2005 through 2009 Winnebago<sup>®</sup> models Journey, Tour and Itasca<sup>®</sup> models Meridian, Ellipse motor homes. These motor homes were built between March 2005 through December 2006. The vehicles are being identified using the model number and production records showing VINs.
3. The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defective component is: 1699.
4. The percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect is 100%.
5. The defect involves the inline power steering filter which can plug due to failure of the screen adhesion to the filter housing causing a rise in return line pressure potentially leading to hose separation for the filter or steering gear filter resulting in a sudden loss of steering fluid and power assist.  
**49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety:** Sudden loss of steering assist without warning involving a motor home could be a problem for certain drivers and could lead to a vehicle crash.
6. Winnebago Industries discovered the defect as a result of an April 24 e-mail from David Stanley of Freightliner LLC to Ron Post of Winnebago Industries. Referencing their recall # FL-517
7. N/A.
8. Winnebago will continue to assist Freightliner LLC to correct the situation as we provide them a current list of owners on a weekly basis. Freightliner LLC will be conducting the recall.
9. N/A.
10. N/A.
11. N/A.

0804p573

Ms. Kathy DeMeter, Director  
April 29, 2008  
Page Two

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Jordal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dale" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Jordal".

Dale Jordal  
Product Safety Administrator

0804p573

Enclosure



Nasser Zamani  
Manager  
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

Freightliner LLC  
4747 N. Channel Ave  
Portland, OR 97217-7699  
503-745-6910 Phone  
503-745-5544 Fax  
NasserZamani@Freightliner.com

December 5, 2007

Dan Smith  
Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Defect Information Report FL-517, Power Steering Filter Plugs**

Mr. Smith:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Freightliner LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 10,053, Freightliner Custom Chassis, XC- Motorhome Chassis manufactured with an in-line power steering filter that can become plugged.

Attached is Freightliner's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nasser Zamani".

Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA  
Enclosure  
Certified Mail#



## Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

December 5, 2007

(c)(1) **Manufacturer:** Freightliner LLC  
P.O. BOX 3849  
Portland, Oregon 97208  
(503) 745-5219

**Brands:** Freightliner Custom Chassis

(c)(2) **Vehicles identification:**  
**Model(s) affected:** XC-Motorhome chassis  
**Model Years affected:** 2005 and 2006  
**Manufacture Dates:** February 14, 2005 through May 17, 2006  
**Basis for determining population:** All XC-Motorhome Chassis built using inline power steering filter p/n 14-16829-000  
**Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:** Not Applicable

(c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** 10,053

(c)(4) **Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** 100%

(c)(5) **Description of the defect:** The inline power steering filter can plug due to failure of the screen adhesion to the filter housing causing a rise in return line pressure potentially leading to hose separation from the filter or steering gear fitting resulting in a sudden loss of steering fluid and power assist.  
**49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety:** Sudden loss of steering assist without warning involving a motor home could be a problem for certain drivers and could lead to a vehicle crash.

(c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** April 2006 inline filter identified as potential cause of steering return line leaks and separations. May 2006 inline filter was removed from production.

(c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:** Not Applicable

(c)(8) **Remedial program:** Affected filters will be replaced with a larger filter. Repairs will be performed by Freightliner dealerships and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by Freightliner to do their own warranty repairs.  
**Estimated Dealer Notification Date:** February 1, 2008

**Estimated Owner Notification Date:** Customer notification will be by first class mail using Freightliner records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately February 1, 2008

**Reimbursement Plan:** Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c)(9) **Information for tire recalls:** not applicable

(c)(10) **Communications sent to dealers and owners:** Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c)(11) **Copy of proposed owner notification letter:** A draft will be sent for ODI review when available.

(c)(12) **Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-517

**Daimler Trucks  
North America LLC**

Daimler Trucks North America LLC  
P.O. Box 4090  
Portland, OR 97208-4090  
800.547.0712 Phone  
503.745.9009 Fax

**April 2008  
FL517  
Pre-Recall Notice**

**Notice of Submission of Defect Information Report/Defect Information Notice  
Subject: FCCC XC Chassis Power Steering Filters**

Daimler Trucks North America has determined that a safety related defect exists in certain chassis manufactured by Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation and delivered to your company. As the incomplete vehicle manufacturer of these products, Daimler Trucks North America is unable to provide the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and/or Transport Canada with the information necessary to fully describe the vehicles potentially containing this defect as required by Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 573.6(c)(2) and/or Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations Section 15(1)(b). Your company may have an obligation to report this information.

The attached Defect Information Report and Defect Information Notice were filed with the appropriate government agencies on December 5, 2008. Please refer to these notices for details regarding the nature of the defect, the remedy, and the expected date when the remedy without charge will be available to owners. Daimler Trucks North America will be conducting this recall and filing the quarterly reports required by Title 49 CFR §573.7 and/or MVSR §15(3). Repairs will be performed by authorized Daimler Trucks North America repair facilities.

A preliminary list of potentially affected vehicles delivered to you is included.

This is the first letter in regard to this recall that you will receive. You will receive another letter when Daimler Trucks North America notifies its dealers and owners that a remedy without charge for this issue is available.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, e-mail address [WarrantyCampaigns@Freightliner.com](mailto:WarrantyCampaigns@Freightliner.com).

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT  
Enclosure