

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

On (Date) DRV decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles 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:

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): _____

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

DRV

1000 Interchange Drive

PO Box 235

Howe, IN 46746

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

Deborah Baker

Governmental Compliance Manger

Telephone Number: 574-457-6472 **Fax No.:** 260-562-1072

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Deborah Baker

Governmental Compliance Manager

Signed:

¹ Each 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. George Person at (202) 366-5210 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): DRV Model Years Involved: 2014 Model(s): Tradition by DRV, Mobile Suite, Mobile Suite Select, and Elite Suite

Production Dates: Beginning: 12/10/2012 Ending: 7/30/2013

VIN Range: Beginning: 6601 Ending: 6880

Vehicle Type: 5th Wheel Recreational Vehicle and Travel Trailer Bodystyle: _____

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

There are no differences in the vehicles. The awnings in question were added as an optional feature.

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:

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, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

<u>Model</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</u>
All DRV	2014	279

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 129

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 69% There were 40 units that were repaired prior to shipment.

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:

Dometic supplied to DRV a listing of awning motor serial numbers affected by this recall. DRV tracks those numbers on all units and is able to determine the actual RV the motor was used on.

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.

Installers may unintentionally fail to strictly follow the instructions in sequence and may not remove a torsion protective anit-rotation cotter pin from the end cap of the fabric roller tube assembly. If the installation instructions are not strictly followed in sequence, the motor assembly screws may experience abnormal torque and may shear, enabling the awning fabric to possibly unfurl while the recreational vehicle is either parked or in transit.

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

Installers may unintentionally fail to strictly follow the instructions in sequence and may not remove a torsion protective anit-rotation cotter pin from the end cap of the fabric roller tube assembly. If the installation

instructions are not strictly followed in sequence, the motor assembly screws may experience abnormal torque and may shear, enabling the awning fabric to possibly unfurl while the recreational vehicle is either parked or in transit.

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

If motor damage occurs, it is possible that the awning can unfurl unexpectedly, either while the coach is at rest or while in transit, increasing the risk of personal injury or a vehicle crash.

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

None

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

Dometic Corporation, 2320 Industrial Parkway, Elkhart IN 46516

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:
Patrick N. McConnell, Chief Engineer, Complimentary Products and Agency

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.

Unknown, Determined by Dometic Corporation.

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.

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.

Dometic will send notices to purchasers of the replacement awnings and will work with the vehicle manufacturers to identify and notify owners of the coaches that had the affected awnings installed on their recreational vehicles. Dometic staff will replace the affected motors with a design that is not subject to an out-of-sequence installation error. The recall has already begun. Owners should contact their RV manufacturer or Dometic at 1-888-447-0003 for more information. Owners are being instructed not to drive their vehicle until repairs can be performed.

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.

Dometic states that the issue was corrected after April 9, 2013

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.

Customer notification will begin with 7 days of NHTSA's recall number assignment and approval of mailing material.

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 (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

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