



September 21, 2010

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway traffic Safety Administration
Mail Code NVS-215
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Dexter Axle spindle misalignment.

Dear Sir or Madam:

Forest River, Inc., on behalf of its subsidiary manufacturing facilities, has determined that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety may exist in certain recreational vehicles manufactured by Forest River.

Enclose is a recall notification.

Dexter Axle has informed Forest River that of 2100 axles welded on a single machine between August 15 and August 30, 2010. Forest Rivers' Sandpiper and Sierra trailer plant had received 92 axles.

At the plant site, 53 axles were replaced. We have compiled a list of the possible units that the balance of the axles is mounted on.

Regards,

William G. Conway Jr.
Chief Corporate Engineer
Forest River, Inc.
574-534-6913
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Email: bconway@forestriverinc.com



Forest River, Inc.

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Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment

PART 573 Defects and Noncompliance Report

On , September 17, 2010, Forest River, Inc. decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety 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 revised report was prepared: September 21, 2010

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): N/A

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

Manufacturer Name: Dexter Axle

Address: 2900 Industrial Parkway East

City, State and Zip: Elkhart, IN 46515

Telephone Number: 1-800-400-2164

Fax No.: 574-295-8666

Name and Title of the person who prepared this report.

William G. Conway Jr. Chief Corporate Engineer

Signed:

I. Identify the Recalled Items of Equipment: Axles built 8/19/2010 lot number 131014922.

2. Identify the Items of Equipment Involved in this Recall, for each make and model or applicable item of equipment product line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the item of equipment), provide:

Generic name of the item:

Make: Dexter Axle Lot Number: 131014922

Part Number: Size: N/A

Function: Axle for a travel trailer or fifth wheel trailer.

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: Model: N/A

Part Number: Size:

Function:

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: Model: N/A

Part Number: Size:

Function:

Model Years Involved: 2011

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: Model:

Part Number: Size:

Function:

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

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, 2009, through April 1, 2009, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period? Less than 10% of Recreational Vehicles manufactured.

II. Identifying the Recall Population

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

Number of Items 92

Model Year Potentially Involved 2011

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 92

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: Unknown
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 items of equipment: Dexter Axle provided a list by plant number and Invoice dates of suspected Axles that were sold to Forest River. Inspection of this list indicated only 92 actual axles were delivered to the Sierra, Sandpiper plant at 2012 Century Dr. Goshen Indiana 46528.

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. Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.
Axles may contain cracks in the spindle weld..

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

These cracks can propagate and cause the spindle to detach from the axle tube, resulting in the separation of the wheel from the vehicle. This can result in a crash, property damage and possibly death.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.
The tire and wheel will begin to wobble.

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

Manufacturer Name: Dexter Axle
Address: 2900 Industrial Parkway East
City, State and Zip: Elkhart, IN 46515

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier: Denise Schrock, Warranty Administrator

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.

Forest River learned of this defect through notification from Dexter Axle. Dexter Axle is aware of a single failure, however Forest River is not aware of any injuries or other incidents as a result of this condition.

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. Please contact Dexter Axle.

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.

Dexter Axle is replacing the axle and spring assemblies with new axles and spring assemblies.

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

Dexter Axle has informed Forest River that the potential defect is limited to one welding machine and a single lot number.

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.

Please contact Dexter Axle.

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.

Attached please find a copy of the proposed owner and dealer notifications and mailing envelope and the reply card to be returned for self inspections performed that verify the axle lot number information and to inform of a new owner. Forest River has identified the addresses of all potential owners and cross checked this list with axles that have already been replaced. We have a potential of 39 axles that are to be located and replaced.

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: These documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579, As Amended: This information is requested pursuant to the authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response maybe used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.