

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

December 11, 2017

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

Mr. Steve Mary Winnebago Industries, Inc 605 W Crystal Lake Rd. Forest City, IA 50436 NEF-150MR 17V-736

**Subject:** Improperly Secured Battery and Hydraulic Lines

Dear Mr. Mary:

This letter serves to acknowledge Winnebago Industries, Inc's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

## Makes/Models/Model Years:

WINNEBAGO/GRAND TOUR/2017-2018 WINNEBAGO/JOURNEY/2017-2018

**Mfr's Report Date:** November 20, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V-736

## **Components:**

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:BATTERY:CABLES SERVICE BRAKES, HYDRAULIC:FOUNDATION COMPONENTS:HOSES, LINES/PIPING, AND FITTINGS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 58

### **Problem Description:**

Winnebago Industries, Inc. (Winnebago) is recalling certain 2017-2018 Grand Tour and Journey motorhomes. The battery cables and hydraulic lines on these vehicles may not be properly secured, allowing them to contact the driveshaft or exhaust system, potentially resulting in an electrical short or hydraulic fluid leak.

# **Consequence:**

An electrical short can increase the risk of a fire. A hydraulic fluid leak can result in a loss of braking ability, increasing the risk of a crash.

# Remedy:

Winnebago will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the battery cables and hydraulic lines, rerouting and securing them as necessary. Any damaged cables or lines will be replaced. These repairs will be performed free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Winnebago customer service at 1-641-585-3535.

#### Notes

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

