

22V313 – Chronology

In mid-May 2021, Grand Design, identified cracked LP quick connect fittings which appeared to be production related. Grand Design communicated the issue to the supplier, Enerco Flex-Tech. Enerco Flex-Tech did not communicate any potential safety issues, advised the issue appeared to be one of quality control/production, and advised that it would make process improvements to the component manufacturing. Upon review, no field failures were identified. Subsequently, over the following approximate 9-to-10-month period, Grand Design occasionally identified Enerco Flex-Tech cracked fittings upon receipt, or during production quality checks. After each finding, Grand Design communicated with the supplier which continued to assure the issue was one of manufacturing quality assurance. Given vendor feedback, Grand Design did not identify a potential safety-related concern. In March 2022, Winnebago Towable identified additional Enerco Flex-Tech cracked fittings in production. On April 7, 2022, Winnebago Industries opened an investigation to assess the situation at Grand Design and across its associated companies. Inventory was inspected, and warranty claims were analyzed. Approximately mid-April, Winnebago was advised of a pending recall by another OEM regarding a similar issue. On or about April 18, 2022, Grand Design was able to re-create cracked fittings at specified torque and sent sample parts to a third-party engineering consultant for analysis. On or about April 20, 2022, Enerco Flex-Tech advised Winnebago that it was filing a defect report with NHTSA regarding the component and issue. About May 3, 2022, Grand Design's third-party engineering consultant offered the tentative opinion that the cause of the cracks is over-tightening of the transition fitting between the valve body and manifold by the supplier during their manufacturing process. That same day, Winnebago's product safety committee met and decided to file a defect information report with NHTSA.

There are no known field issues on Winnebago Ekko products impacted by this recall.