

# Forest River, Inc.

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September 21, 2010

10V454 (6 Pages)

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

RE: Plug in remote control receiver for an electric fireplace recall.

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. We are now better informed as to the number of Fireplace inserts that were equipped with the defective remote receiver. We were provided a list by invoice, plant number, date and actual product that were shipped to Forest River or its subsidiary manufacturing facilities by Dimplex North America Limited's distributer Wesco Distributing Company. We have generated a list of fireplace installations by either standard build floor plans or by option number that may contain the remote control receivers in question. We have forwarded this list to Dimplex so that they may initiate their recall letter and replace those receivers that are defective.

They will do the quarterly reporting to NHTSA on our behalf since they are actually doing the recall.

Regards,

William G. Conway Jr. Chief Corporate Engineer

Forest River, Inc. 574-534-6913

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#### Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment

PART 573 Defects and Noncompliance Report

On , September 14, 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: October 6, 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: Dimpex North America Limited

Address: 1367 Industrial Road

City, State and Zip: Cambridge, Ontario, Canada N1R 7G8

Telephone Number: 1-800-668-6663 ext 468 Fax No.: 877-873-2321

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: Remote Control Units for Electric Fireplaces.
- 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: Model: NNF5500, BF6000

Part Number: Size: N/A Function: Electric Fire Place

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

Make: Model: FRC-100 Remote Control Part Number: Size: 6800050200RP

Function: Remote Control for the Electric Fireplace

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

Make: Model: BFP1-RC Remote Control for the BF5000NT Electric Fireplace

Part Number: Size:

Function: Remote control for the Electric Fireplace

Model Years Involved: 2001-2007, 2009

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 2% 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 4085 Model Year Potentially Involved 2001 to 2009

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 2207

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: Dimplex North America provided a list by year, plant number, and Invoice dates of suspected units that were sold to Forest River. Inspection of this list indicated only 2207 actual fireplace inserts of the suspected models. The rest of the products sold to Forest River were replacement remote controls that we can only assume were to replace defective controls in the field.

## 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.

In some instances, the plug-in remote control receiver, which is a component of a factory installed fireplace, can overheat, posing a fire hazard.

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

Remote Control unit may over heat, posing a fire hazard.

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

The remote control receiver becomes hot to the touch.

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: Dimplex North America Limited

Address: 1367 Industrial Road

City, State and Zip: Cambridge, Ontario Canada N1R 7G8

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier: Kristoffer Hess P. E., Senior V.P. Product Development & Engineering

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 the fireplace supplier. 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. N/A

### 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.

Forest River has sent a list of suspected units that have the potential of having the defective receiver. Dimplex plans on sending recall notices to all owners or dealers with the instructions for the self inspection or with information to have a dealer perform an inspection to identify an effected remote control unit. Dimplex will deliver one replacement unit to each owner of an affected unit. Forest River recognizes that as a final stage vehicle manufacturer it remains responsible for the successful completion of the recall campaign, however with the expertise of Dimplex North America we felt that it was more expedient for them to deal direct with the customer.

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

The fireplace manufacturer has supplied us with replacement remote control units.

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 the manufacturer of the fireplace unit.

#### 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 preformed that verify the remote control receiver model information and to inform of a new owner provided by Dimplex North America. Forest River has identified the addresses of all owners and forwarded this information to Simplex North America and they will provide quarterly reports of the recall campaign.

#### 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.