



October 30, 1998

RE: PRODUCT RECALL: Westerbeke Generators 4.5 BCGTC, 4.5 BCGTE, 7.2 BCGTC, 7.2 BCGTE and 9.6 BCGTC

Dear Boat Owner:

Please read this letter carefully because it concerns a product you have purchased which needs to be modified in order to correct a defect that poses a potential danger of personal injury.

Our records indicate that you have purchased a vessel containing one of the Westerbeke gasoline powered generators listed above. Westerbeke has recently learned that these generators contain a component which may fail under certain conditions, resulting in overheating of the generator's internal wiring which may in turn lead to short circuiting the windings. These conditions may be accompanied by smoke and sparks that might lead to fire and potential personal injury. The generator can be easily modified to eliminate this problem and Westerbeke will arrange to have the necessary repairs performed at no cost to you.

The component in question is a bridge rectifier which is a part of the battery charging circuit. This bridge rectifier must be replaced. Our generators are now being produced with correct components, and we have already retrofitted generators in the boatbuilders' plants. To provide added assurance that the problem will not happen again, we have increased the rating of the bridge rectifier, added a fuse to protect the circuit and replaced the terminals in the circuit with stronger ones.

While there have been no reported incidents of injury or property damage, and the actual failure rate is under 2%, Westerbeke is urging its customers to stop using the above listed generators until the problem has been corrected. Please contact Westerbeke at your earliest convenience so that we can arrange to make the necessary repairs on your generator. We have established a toll-free phone line for this purpose: 1-800-243-8760.

If you have sold or given away your Westerbeke generator, please either refer this letter to the new owner or contact us with the name and address of the new owner so that this safety message and recall notice will come to the new owner's attention.

We regret any inconvenience this might cause you, but your safety is our most important concern.

Sincerely,

Joe Joyce
Customer Service Manager
Westerbeke Corporation