U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

APR 3 0 2012

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Via USPS Certified Mail and Email

NVS-215aa
EQ12-005
12E-002

Mr. Barry E. Wolff
Director of Risk Management
The Braun Corporation
631 W. 11th Street
Winamac, IN 46996

Re: Safety Recall 12E-002

Dear Mr. Wolff:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI), Recall Management Division (RMD) is conducting an equipment query (EQ) investigation in relation to certain Braun Corporation (Braun) wheelchair lifts that Braun has decided do not comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and could lead to personal injury. This investigation has been assigned the identification EQ12-005.

In a letter dated January, 31, 2012, Braun notified the NHTSA that it had decided a defect exists in certain Century-2 and Vista-2 wheelchair lifts, manufactured from November 20, 2006 through September 10, 2010, and installed on various vans and transit buses. Over time and with frequent use, the roll stop latches on the outer barrier may become bent or misaligned. Should this occur, a wheelchair occupant may defeat or ride over the insufficiently latched roll stop. If this occurs when the lift platform is in an elevated position, the wheelchair's occupant could fall and sustain injury. NHTSA assigned recall number 12E-002 to this matter.

The purpose of this request is to obtain a list of purchasers that were sold these wheelchair lifts so they are made aware of this safety recall and are able to determine the need for any similar safety recall. Accordingly, we require the following information:

1. Provide a list of all customers that received the same or similarly affected Braun wheelchair lifts and provide their company name, line of business (i.e. vehicle manufacturer, equipment manufacturer, distributor, etc.), address, phone number, contact person, quantity sold to each, and sale date.

This letter is being sent to your company pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30166, which authorizes NHTSA to conduct any investigation that may be necessary to enforce Chapter 301 of Title 49. Your company's failure to respond promptly and fully to this letter could subject your company to civil penalties pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30165 or lead to an action for injunctive relief pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30163.

If your company claims that any of the information or documents provided in response to this information request constitute confidential commercial material within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4), or are protected from disclosure pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1905, your company must submit supporting information together with the materials that are the subject of the confidentiality request, in accordance with 49 CFR Part 512, as amended (69 Fed. Reg. 21409 et seq; April 21, 2004), to the Office of Chief Counsel (NCC-111), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room W41-227, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20590. Your company is required to submit two copies of the documents containing allegedly confidential information (except only one copy of blueprints) and one copy of the documents from which information claimed to be confidential has been deleted. Please remember that the word "CONFIDENTIAL" must appear at the top of each page containing information claimed to be confidential, and the information must be clearly identified in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 512.6.

Your company's written response must be submitted to this office within 10 days of receiving this letter. In your response, please be certain to include a reference to this matter's identification number which is EQ12-005.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Alex Ansley of my staff at (202) 493-0481 or by e-mail at alexander.ansley@dot.gov. Response submissions may be made by US Mail, fax (202) 366-7882, or e-mail rmd.odi@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

for Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement