

04V-252 (193)

**Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹**

On May 7, 2004, Girardin Minibus, Inc. [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 105) exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: May 26, 2004

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 04-006-AWB

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Girardin Minibus Inc., Trans Canada Highway, Drummondville, Quebec, Canada J2B 6V4

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Luc Guillemette, Service & Warranty Manager

Telephone Number: (819) 477-8222 ext. 455 Fax No.: (819) 477-1848

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

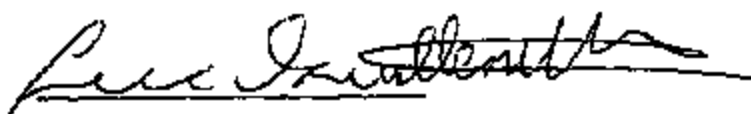
Luc Guillemette

Service & Warranty Manager

luc.guillemette@girardin.com

RECEIVED
MAY 27 P 2 32
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Signed:



¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Girardin **Model Years Involved:** 2003-2004

Model(s): MB IV on Ford chassis (diesel & CNG)

Production Dates: Beginning: Feb. 26, 2004 **Ending:** May 7, 2004

VIN Range: Beginning: ----- **Ending:** -----

Vehicle Type: Ford E-450 diesel & CNG **Bodystyle:** School Bus

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): _____ **Model Years Involved:** _____ **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): _____ **Model Years Involved:** _____ **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

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, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

100% of the MB IV on Ford chassis (diesel & CNG) equipped with option AWB-2 (audible warning brake).

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
MB IV Ford diesel & CNG	2003	17
MB IV Ford diesel & CNG	2004	11

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 28

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: maximum 8 vehicles for 29%

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 vehicles:

The recall population of minibuses affected by this recall are Ford chassis (diesel & CNG) with option AWB-2 which has the pressure switch fitting P/N: 23A200. All the minibuses with this part (23A200) have been manufactured between February 26, 2004 and May 7, 2004.

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.

The pressure switch fitting installed on the power steering line to assist the power brake system may leak. (See the recall replacement procedure).

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.
Even if the pressure switch fitting is tight, it may leak.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.
Power steering oil may leak.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.
Audible warning brake system will turn on (buzzer and light).

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

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.

On April 30, 2004, we received a phone call from one of our dealer (Ramp Transportation Co.) saying that the pressure switch fitting for the audible warning brake system was leaking on 3 minibuses. They had to deliver the 3 minibuses so they have removed the pressure switch fitting P/N: 23A200 and installed a "T" fitting like on 2002 minibuses and previous. The same day we have tested 2 minibuses at the factory and they were not leaking. In the week of May 3, 2004, we had a call from the delivery company saying that the 2 minibuses tested on April 30, 2004 were wet around the pressure switch fitting. We have received, on May 18, 2004, 3 warranty claims from Ramp for the 3 minibuses.

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.

We have received the new pressure switch fitting P/N: 23A200-Rev A on May 13, 2004. The engineering department have made a leak test on 3 minibuses with the new fitting and there were no leaking at all.

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.

There are 2 ways to solve the problem:

1. To replace the pressure switch with fitting P/N: 23A200 with the new pressure switch fitting P/N: 23A200-Rev A.
2. To remove the pressure switch fitting P/N: 23A200 and install the "T" fitting.

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

The pressure switch fitting P/N: 23A200 has one hole for the pressure switch and is made in 4 pieces. The new pressure switch fitting P/N: 23A200-Rev A has 3 holes (different position) for the pressure switch and is made in one piece (see recall replacement procedure for details).

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.

Starting on May 18, 2004, we have retrofitted 17 minibuses, still in our yard, equipped with pressure switch fitting P/N: 23A200. The owners (dealers or end users) of all the other minibuses affected by this recall will be informed in the next couple of days.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. 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.

We will mail a letter to the owner (dealer or end user) of the 9 remaining minibuses affected by this recall by the end of May.

The recall replacement procedure will be enclosed with the letter.

The parts needed to complete the recall will be shipped free of charge to all the owners of the 9 remaining minibuses as soon as we have located them. Labour will be reimbursed.

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. We will supply in the next couple of days.*

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.

DATE: 4/05/77

RECALL CAMPAIGN REPORT

PAGE: 1
REPORT ID: LM2018

CAMPAIGN#: 04-006-AMB BRAKE PRESSURE SWITCH FITTING TO REPLACE (RE. AMB-7)

DATE: 4/05/26

STOCK CHASSIS SERIAL NO. MODEL

SOLD ON FINAL CUSTOMER

#/O AGI

DEALER: LEONARD BUS SALES INC.

FOUR LEONARD WAY

STOCK	CHASSIS	SERIAL	NO.	MODEL	DATE	BY
0424205	1FDXB45PX4HA74378	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SH FFL RL 4/01/16
0424206	1FDXB45P14HA74379	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SH FFL RL 4/01/16
0424210	1FDXB45P84HA70268	FDD	6.8L	158	DW	SE FFL RL 4/01/16
0424211	1FDXB45P74HA70269	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SE FFL RL 4/01/16
0424215	1FDXB45P84HA70273	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SB SPL ML 4/01/15
0424216	1FDXB45P04HA70274	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SB SPL ML 4/01/15
0424217	1FDXB45P24HA70275	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SB SPL ML 4/01/15
0424218	1FDXB45P44HA70276	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SB SPL ML 4/01/15
0424219	1FDXB45P64HA70277	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SB SPL ML 4/01/15
0424231	1FDXB45P84HA86481	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SB SPL ML 4/01/15
0424232	1FDXB45P44HA86482	FDD	6.0L	158	DW	SB SPL ML 4/01/15

DEPOSIT

BY

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DEALER: RAMP TRANSPORTATION CO., INC. P.O. BOX 437

1595 ROUTE 112

FORT JEFFERSON ST.

NY

STOCK	CHASSIS	SERIAL	NO.	MODEL	DATE	BY
0324385	1FDXE45P53HB77598	FDD	158	DRW	SB SPL RLD 24	3/11/06
0324386	1FDXE45P73HB77599	FDD	158	DRW	SB SPL RLD 24	3/11/06
0324419	1FDXE45P33HB52078	FDD	158	DRW	SH FFL RLD 24	3/11/03
0324420	1FDXE45P33HB52079	FDD	158	DRW	SH FFL RLD 24	3/11/03
0324421	1FDXE45P63HB52080	FDD	158	DRW	SH FFL RLD 24	3/11/03
0324422	1FDXE45P83HB52081	FDD	158	DRW	SH FFL RLD 24	3/11/03
0324423	1FDXE45P13HB52146	FDD	158	DRW	SB SPL RLD 24	3/11/03
0324427	1FDXE45P13HB52147	FDD	158	DRW	SB SPL RLD 24	3/11/06
0324438	1FDXE45P13HB52148	FDD	158	DRW	SB SPL RLD 24	3/11/06
0324439	1FDXE45P33HB52095	FDD	158	DRW	CO SPL RLD 32	3/10/10
0324517	1FDXE45P33HB52096	FDD	158	DRW	CO SPL RLD 32	3/10/10
0324518	1FDXE45P33HB52128	FDD	176	DRW	CO SPL RLD 32	3/10/10

FAMILING CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 7 HAIGHT STREET
 FAMILING CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 7 HAIGHT STREET
 SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE 10 MOFFITT BLVD.
 SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE 10 MOFFITT BLVD.
 SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE 10 MOFFITT BLVD.
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claims done

DEALER: A.Z. BUS SALES INC.

1900 SOUTH RIVERSIDE AVENUE

P.O. BOX 788

COTTON

CA

STOCK	CHASSIS	SERIAL	NO.	MODEL	DATE	BY
0324443	1FDXE45M23HB54262	FD	CWG	158	DRW	SB FFL RLD 3/09/02
0324444	1FDXE45M43HB54263	FD	CWG	158	DRW	SH FFL RLD 3/09/02
0324445	1FDXE45M63HB54264	FD	CWG	158	DRW	SH FFL RLD 3/09/02
0324446	1FDXE45M83HB54265	FD	CWG	158	DRW	SH FFL RLD 3/09/02

PJ40 : done at factory