



**North American
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July 20, 2004

**Associate administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S. W.
Washington, D.C. 20590**

Subject: NABI Safety Recall #20042

Dear Sir:

**Attached is a vehicle defect initial information report which is submitted pursuant to
Parts 573.5, 151 (1), and 153 (1-6) of the National Traffic And Motor Vehicle Safety Act.**

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall.

Very truly yours,

North American Bus Industries (NABI)

**Dan C. Allen
Director of Product Engineering**

Enclosures

NORTH AMERICAN BUS INDUSTRIES (NABI)

**VEHICLE DEFECT
INITIAL INFORMATION REPORT**

Date: July 20, 2004

NABI Recall No. 20042

MAKE	MODEL	MODEL YEAR	NUMBER OF VEHICLES	MANUFACTURED DATES		OTHER IDENTIFICATION NECESSARY TO DESCRIBE VEHICLE
				FROM	THROUGH	
NABI	60LFW	2003-2004	153	1/01/03	7/15/04	60' Articulated I.F transit buses with side destination sign.

Total Number of Vehicles: 153

Percent Potentially Containing Defect: 100%

NORTH AMERICAN BUS INDUSTRIES, Inc. (NABI)

NABI RECALL NO. 20042

**VEHICLE DEFECT
INITIAL INFORMATION REPORT**

DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT: The first emergency egress window located on the curb side of the vehicle, immediately behind the entrance door, will not open sufficiently to allow a person to escape in the event of an emergency. On certain buses there is interference between the side destination sign and the window frame that will not allow the window to open sufficiently to comply with FMVSS 217. This recall is being undertaken to inspect and relocate the side destination sign, as required, to eliminate this interference.

RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY: In an emergency, this window, which is currently identified as an emergency exit will not open sufficiently to allow the passage of a person. Without the use of this window as an emergency exit, there are sufficient exits to meet the emergency exit requirements as required by FMVSS 217. These buses may continue to be safely operated until the interference is corrected by NABI personnel. Each bus found to have this condition should have the emergency exit labels for this window covered with tape or removed until the defect can be corrected by NABI personnel.

1) CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF DEFECT:

- On June 28, 2004 NABI received a letter, PE-217-040610, from NHTSA regarding this issue.
- On or about July 6, 2004 an investigation was initiated by NABI. A field survey confirmed the findings of the letter noted above.
- On July 19, 2004 NABI initiated this recall to correct the defect.

2) MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO REPAIR VEHICLE: The owner will be officially notified of the defect and NABI will arrange to have the vehicles repaired.

- 3) **REMEDY EXPENSE:** NABL, Inc. will repair the vehicles free of charge.
- 4) **EARLIEST DATE TO BE REMEDIED:** July, 2004
- 5) **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT DATE:** There will be no public announcement.
- 6) **OWNER LETTER:** Draft notification letter is enclosed for review and approval by NHTSA.

NABI letterhead

draft

RECALL NOTICE

July, 2004

Dear NABI Customer:

NHTSA Campaign # XXXX

NABI Recall # 20042

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. North American Bus Industries, Inc. (NABI) has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 60' LFW, buses manufactured between January 1, 2003 and July 15, 2004.

Our records identify you as the owner of the vehicles shown on the attached list that are affected by this recall.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

NABI has determined that the first emergency egress window located on the curb side of the vehicle, immediately behind the entrance door, will not open sufficiently to allow a person to escape in the event of an emergency. On certain buses there is interference between the side destination sign and the window frame that will not allow the window to open sufficiently to comply with FMVSS 217. This recall is being undertaken to inspect and relocate the side destination sign, as required, to eliminate this interference.

ACTION YOU SHOULD TAKE

Each bus should be inspected for the above condition and brought to the attention of the NABI field service technician that has been assigned to your fleet. Each bus found to have this condition should have the emergency exit labels for this window covered with tape or removed until the defect can be corrected by NABI personnel.

Without the use of this window as an emergency exit, there are sufficient exits to meet the emergency exit requirements as required by FMVSS 217. These buses may continue to be safely operated until the interference is corrected by NABI personnel.

If NABI does not remedy this condition without charge on the mutually agreed upon service date or within 5 days of this agreed upon date, you can obtain assistance by calling NABI Customer Service at (888) 424-5844, Ext 7900. You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh St., S.W., Washington D.C. 20590, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hot-line at 1-888-327-4236 if you believe that NABI has failed to remedy the vehicle without charge, within a reasonable time, which is no longer than 60 days after your first tender to obtain repair. You may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of a problem associated with this recall. For more information, contact NABI at 1 256-831-4296.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

We apologize for any inconvenience this matter may cause you.

North American Bus Industries, Inc.