

Sainte-Claire, September 13th, 2004

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein,
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400, Seventh Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590
USA

04V-432
RECEIVED
NVS-115

SEP 20 P 12:10

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: SAFETY RECALL NOTIFICATION

Dear Mr. Weinstein,

As a coach manufacturer, Prévost Car Inc. advises you in accordance with your safety law, Part 573.6, that we have found a defect on some of our vehicles that does not meet the US Federal Motor Vehicle Standards and Regulations part 573.5.

The vehicles potentially affected by the defect are as follows:

MAKE: PRÉVOST

	From	To	
VIP H3-45, H3-41 and H3-45 coaches MODEL YEAR: 2004	2PCV3349641014907	2PCH3349041014981	Between March 2004 and June 2004
MTH XL2-40 and MTH XL2-45, XL2-45 Entertainer and XL2-45 coaches MODEL YEAR: 2005	2PCX3349951028391	2PCX3349951028438	Between March 2004 and June 2004

The total number of vehicles potentially affected by the defect is estimated to be 102 in the U.S. and 19 in Canada, and the total number of the potentially affected vehicles in North America manufactured between March 10th 2004 and June 18th 2004 is 121.

The estimated percentage of the potentially affected vehicles that contain the defect is 10-15 % of the total manufactured quantity.

THE DEFECT MAY BE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

It has come to the attention of Prévost Car Inc. that on the above-mentioned vehicles, material that does not meet Prévost Car requirements may have been installed on the front suspension of I-beam axle equipped vehicles and on the rear suspension of all vehicles. It is necessary to inspect the radius rod support pins to ensure that no cracks are present. This inspection will determine if the radius rod support pins need replacement.

THE EVENTS THAT WERE THE BASIS FOR THE DETERMINATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A SAFETY DEFECT ARE:

June 8th 2004, a first defective part has been found on our assembly line. After investigation of the defect and tracing the supplier lot number of the raw material, the number of vehicles fabricated with potential defect parts was determined. There have never been reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities or warranty claims related to this defect.

MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO REPAIR THE DEFECT:

Since the defect is easily detectable by visual inspection, the remedy consists of visually inspecting all parts potentially defective and replacing them as necessary. All potential VIN are flagged in our data base until this inspection is performed and reported.

Safety recall no. 04-13 explains the complete procedure required.

As requested in paragraph 573.2 (8), three (3) copies of the letter that our customers (Defect Notification) will receive on that matter, and three (3) copies of Safety recall no. 04-13 are enclosed for your perusal. If you require any information on that campaign, do not hesitate to contact us.

Truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joanyne Côté". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joanyne Côté, E.I.T.

Technical Publications Manager



PREVOST

ENREGISTRÉ - REGISTERED
ISO 9001 & ISO 14001

**SAFETY
RECALL**

Sr04-13



DATE : SEPTEMBER 2004	SECTION : 16
SUBJECT : INSPECTION OF RADIUS ROD SUPPORT PINS	

APPLICATION

Model	VIN
H3-45 VIP, H3-41 & H3-45 Coaches Model Year : 2004	From 2PCV3349641014907 up to 2PCH3349041014981 incl.
MTH XL2-40, MTH XL2-45 & XL2-45 Entertainer & XL2-45 Coaches Model Year : 2005	From 2PCX3349951028391 up to 2PCX3349951028438 incl.

DESCRIPTION

On the above-mentioned vehicles, material that does not meet Prevost Car requirements may have been installed on the front suspension of I-beam axle equipped vehicles and on the rear suspension of all vehicles. It is necessary to inspect the radius rod support pins to ensure that no cracks are present. This inspection will determine if the radius rod support pins need replacement. For more information or help on how to perform this safety recall, please contact your service manager or the nearest service center.

PROCEDURE

WARNING
Raise vehicle or park vehicle over a repair pit, apply parking brake, stop engine and set battery master switch(es) to the OFF position prior to working on the vehicle. Prior to working under an air-suspended vehicle, it is strongly recommended to securely support the body at the recommended jacking points.

Identify and mark the front and rear suspension radius rods that must be dismantled in order to check the pins. Only the identified radius rods must be dismantled.

PART A: FRONT SUSPENSION

NOTE
Check the front suspension of vehicles equipped with an I-beam front suspension only. Check the rear suspension of all vehicles.

1. Dismount each radius rod by flattening the tabs of locking plate and by unscrewing the two bolts directly fastened into radius rod pivot (if needed, refer to maintenance manual). Thoroughly clean the parts contact surfaces by removing all trace of grease or rust preventive product.
2. Check support pin surface for cracks (Refer to example in figure 1).

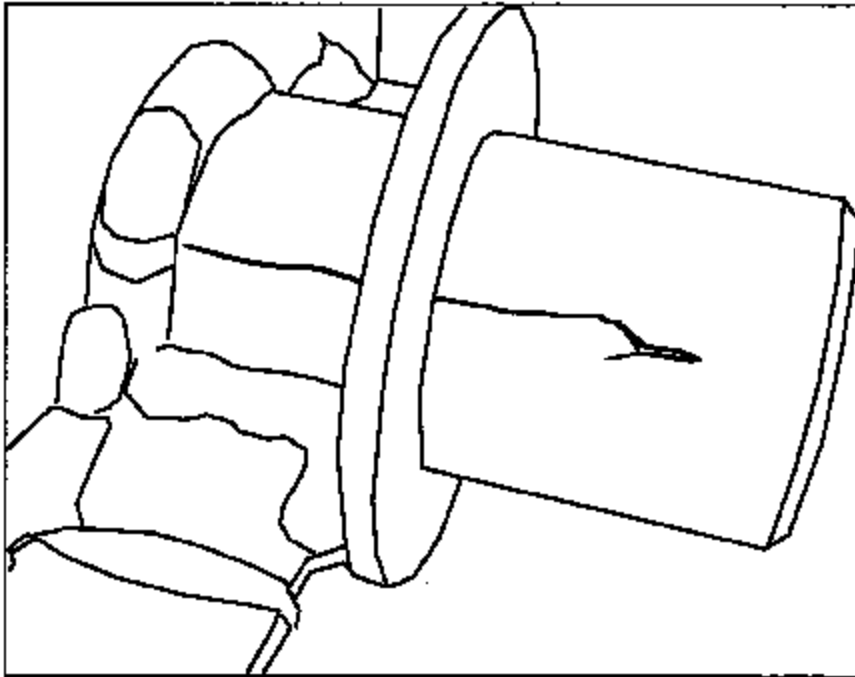


FIGURE 1: EXAMPLE OF CRACK

3. If a defective support pin is detected, it must be replaced (Refer to figures 2, 3 and 4).

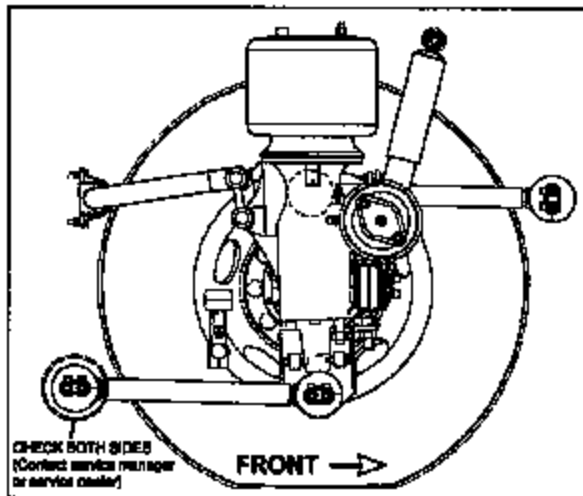


FIGURE 2 : XL2 VEHICLES FRONT SUSPENSION

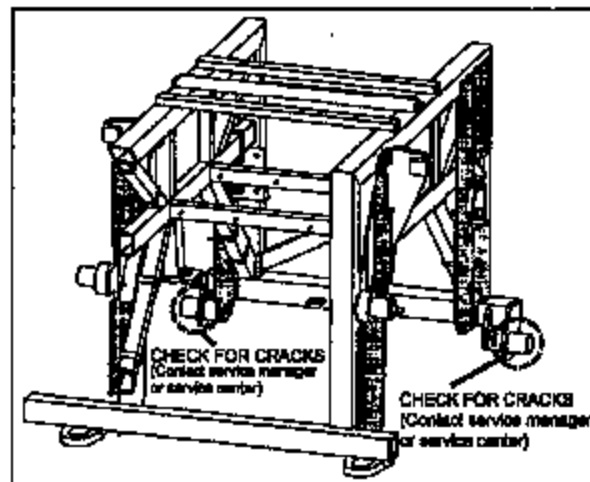


FIGURE 3 : XL2 VEHICLES FRONT SUSPENSION

CAUTION

If one of the XL2 front suspension support pins is found defective (cracked), contact your service manager or the nearest Prevoast Car service center for more information or help on how to perform this safety recall.

4. If the support pin is not defective, reinstall the radius rod. Use new locking tab plates (Prévost #110340). Coat the surface of contact of the head and the bolt threads with white grease, position radius rod then tighten bolts by hand.

MATERIAL

Part No.	Description	Qty.
110340	Locking Tab Plate	A/R
110652P	Support, Radius Rod L.H.	1
110653P	Support, Radius Rod R.H.	1
110620P	Support, Bellows L.H.	1
131690	Attachment, Radius Rod Support	1

NOTE

Material can be obtained through regular channels.

- Alternately tighten bolts up to 116 Ft-lbf (156 Nm) torque. Fold locking tab over bolt heads.

⚠ CAUTION ⚠

Before tightening bolts, it is extremely important that the vehicle's suspension be set to the proper driving height (see maintenance manual) otherwise; the rubber bushing will become preloaded, thus reducing the life span of these parts.

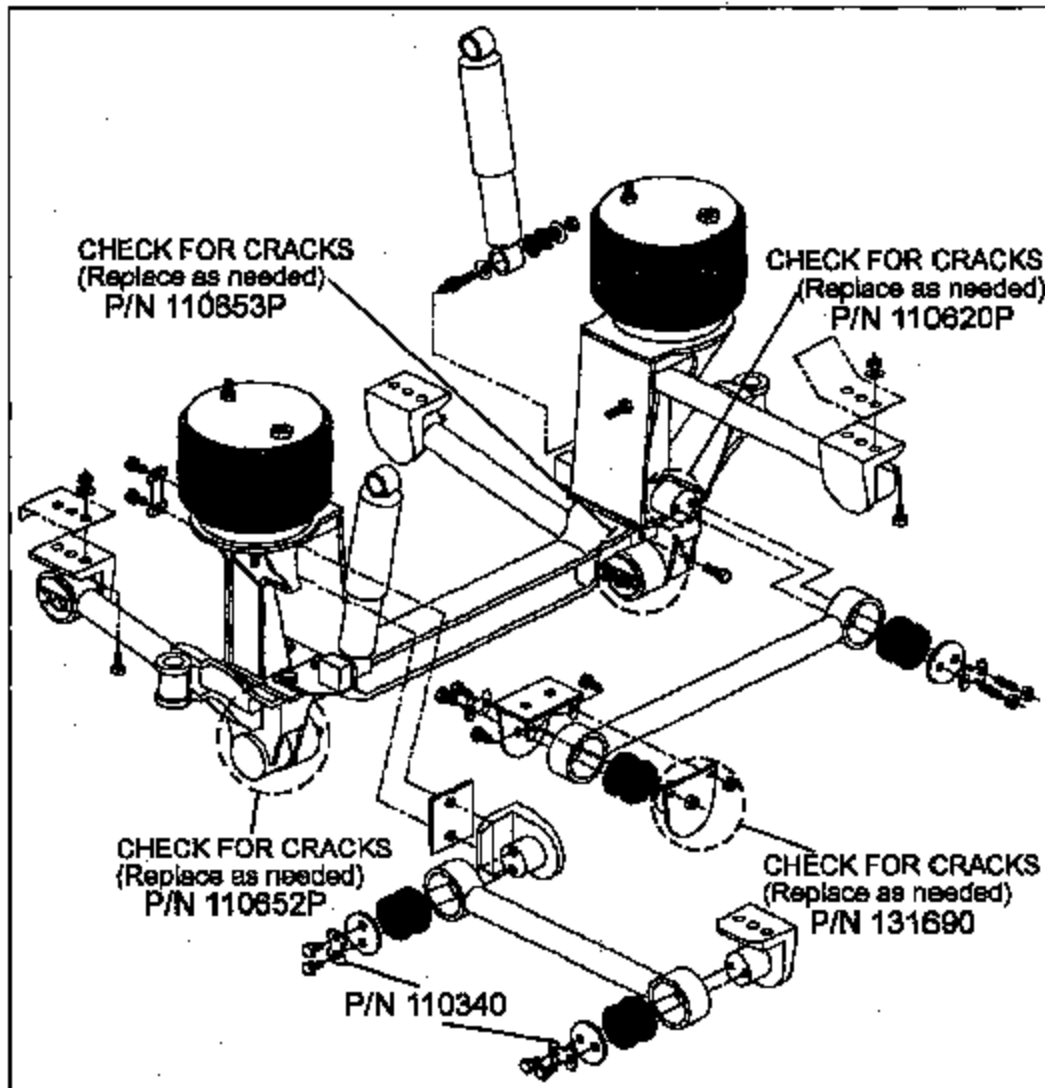


FIGURE 4: H3 VEHICLES I-BEAM AXLE FRONT SUSPENSION

PART B: REAR SUSPENSION

1. Dismount each radius rod by flattening the tabs of locking plate and by unscrewing the two bolts directly fastened into radius rod pivot (if needed, refer to maintenance manual). Thoroughly clean the parts contact surfaces by removing all trace of grease or rust preventive product.
2. Check support pin surface for cracks (Refer to example in figure 1). If a defective support pin is detected, it must be replaced (Refer to figures 5, 6, 7 and 8).

⚠ CAUTION ⚠

If one of the drive axle subframe support pins or one of the support pins located aft of the tag axle is found defective (cracked), contact your service manager or the nearest Prévost Car service center for more information or help on how to perform this safety recall.

3. If the support pin is not defective, reinstall the radius rod. Use new locking tab plates (Prévost #110340). Coat the surface of contact of the head and the bolt threads with white grease, position radius rod then tighten bolts by hand.
4. Alternately tighten bolts up to 115 Ft-lbf (156 Nm) torque. Fold locking tab over bolt heads.

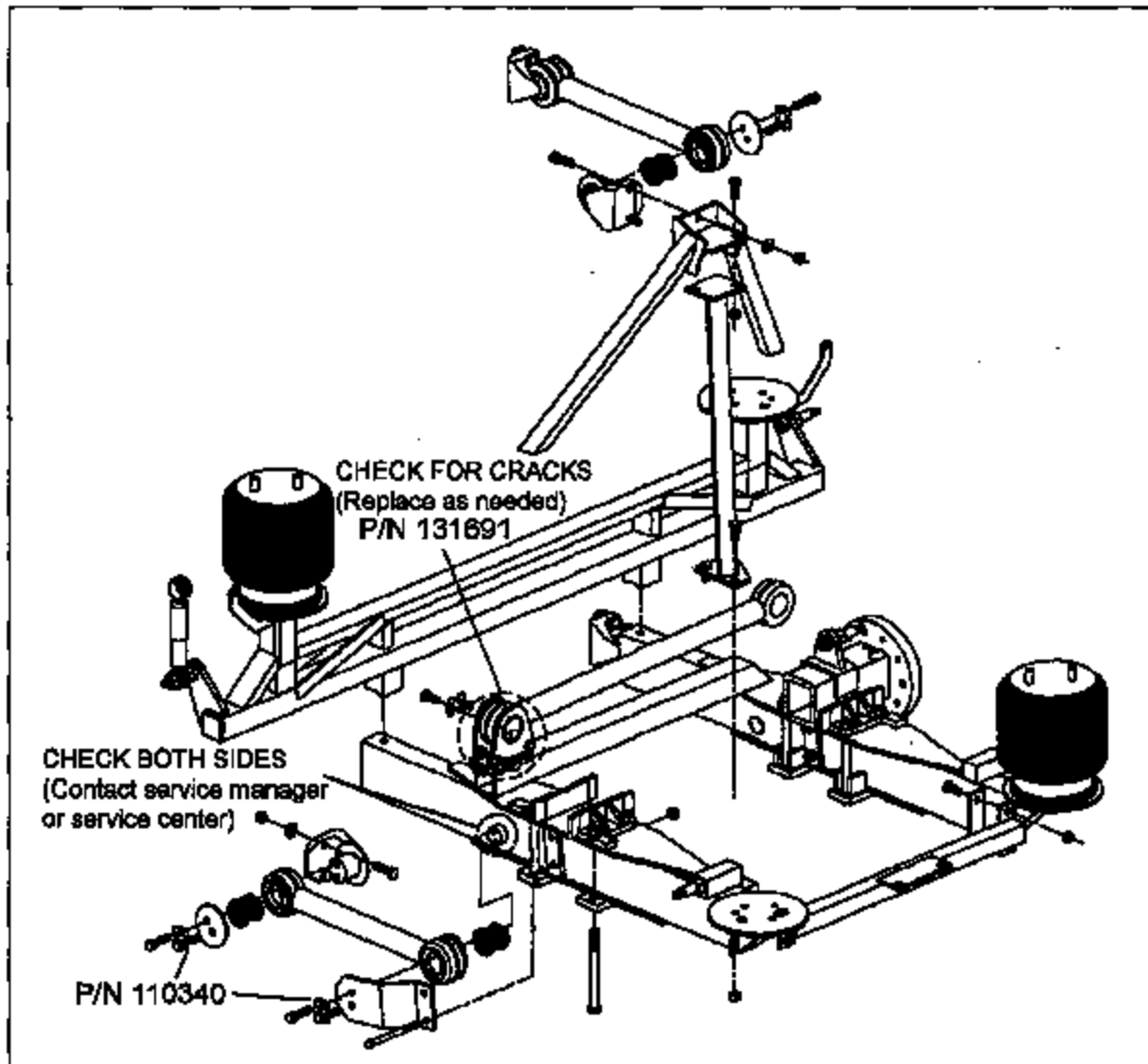


FIGURE 5: REAR SUSPENSION

MATERIAL

Part No.	Description	Qty
110340	Locking Tab Plate	1
131890	Attachment, Radius Rod Support	1
131891	Attachment, Radius Rod Support	1

NOTE

Material can be obtained through regular channels.

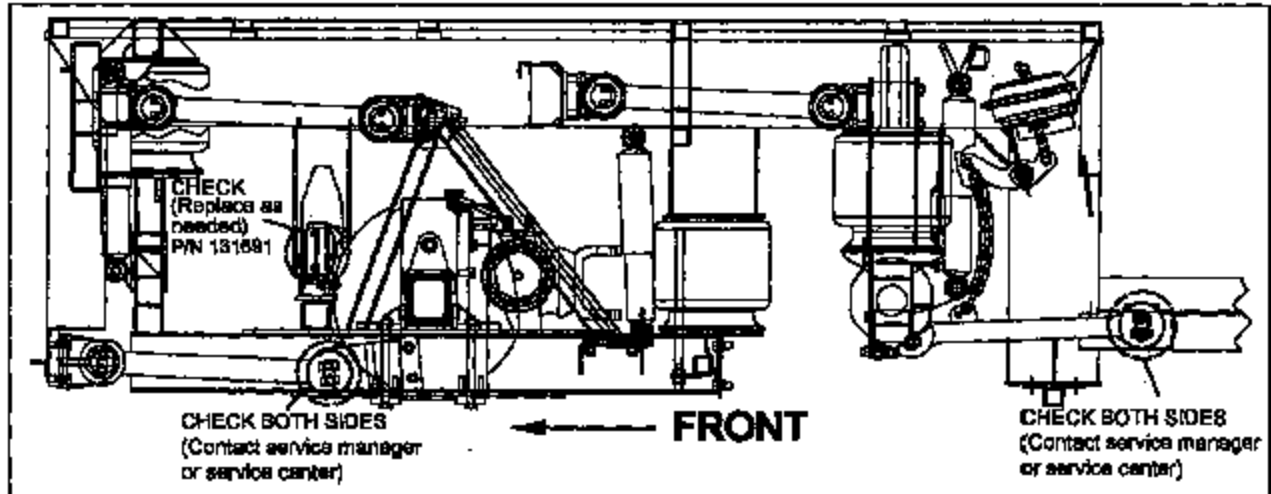


FIGURE 8: REAR SUSPENSION

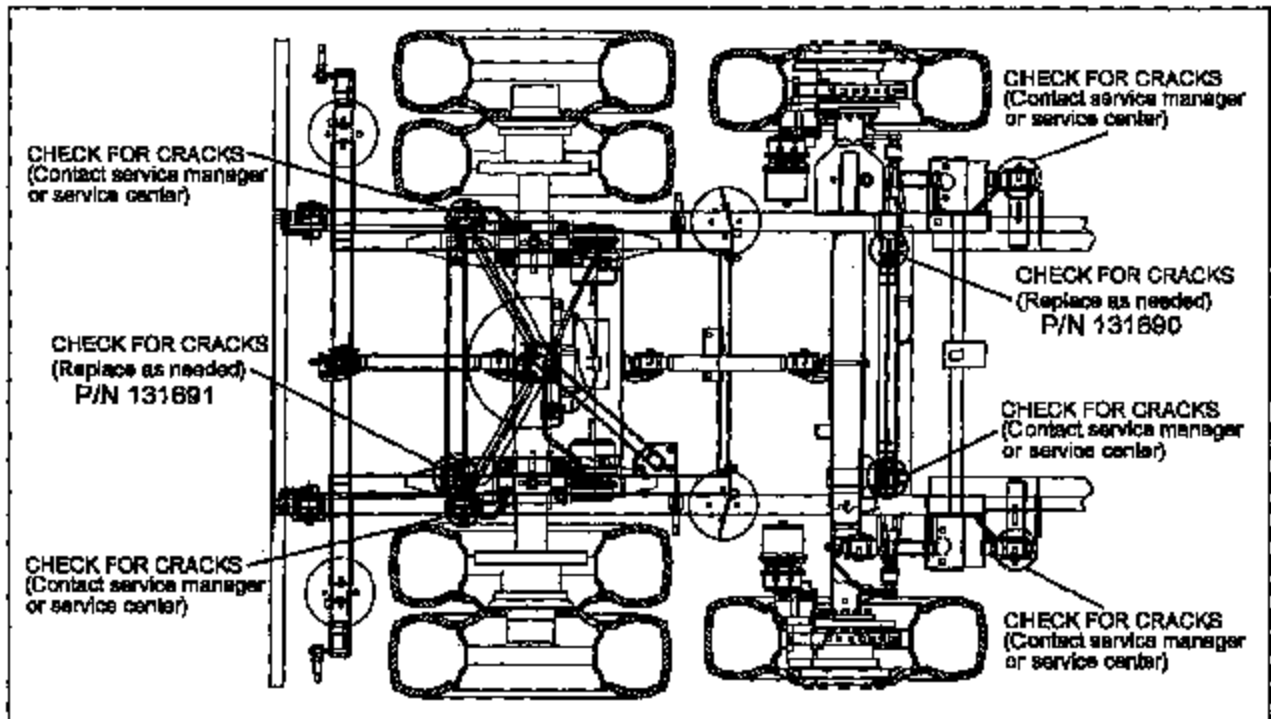


FIGURE 7: REAR SUSPENSION

CAUTION

Before tightening bolts, it is extremely important that the vehicle's suspension be set to the proper driving height (see maintenance manual) otherwise; the rubber bushing will become preloaded, thus reducing the life span of these parts.

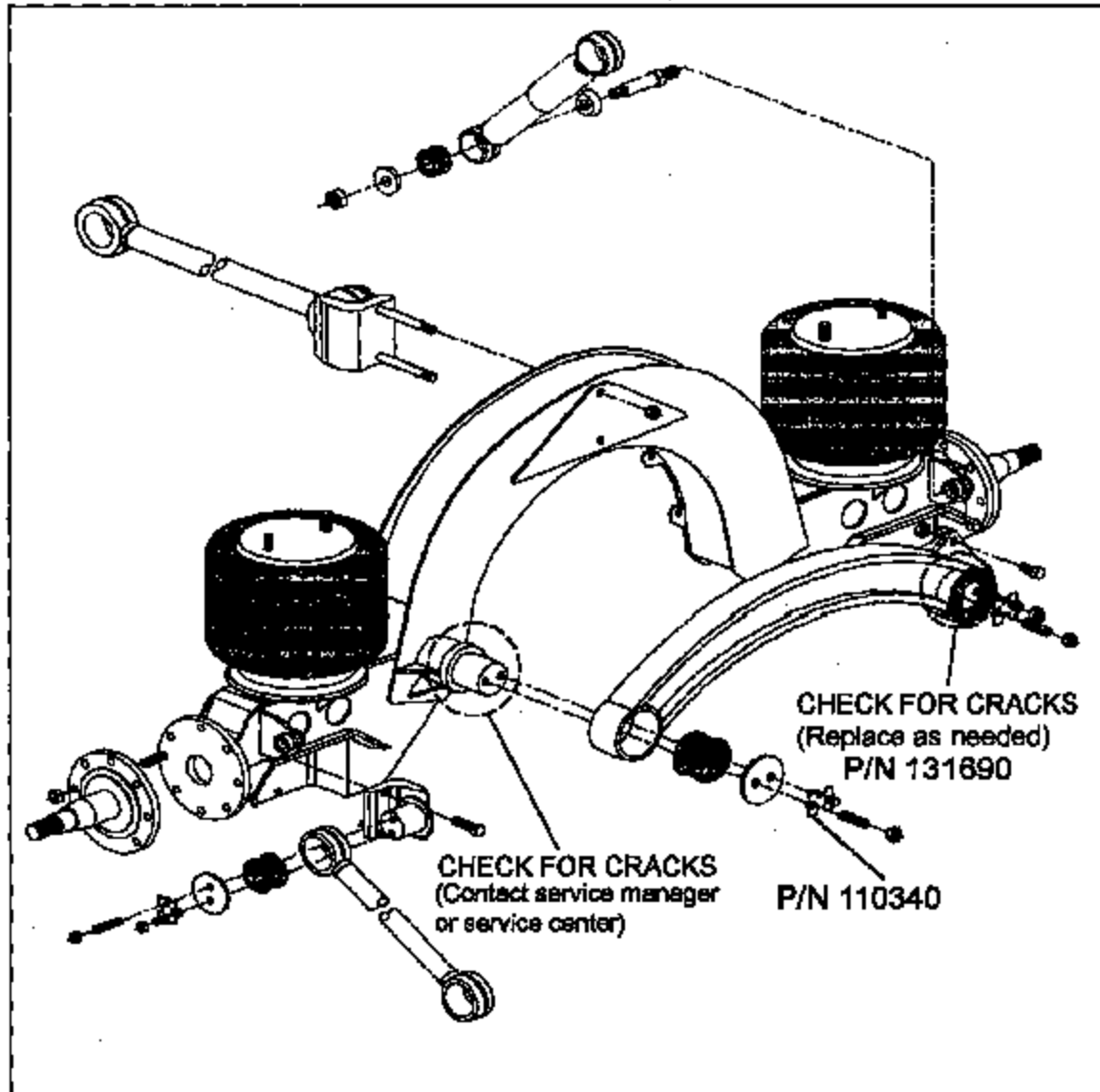


FIGURE 6: TAG AXLE

WARRANTY

This modification is covered by Prevostr Car's normal warranty. We will reimburse you the parts and ten hours (10.0) of labor upon receipt of the parts and a completed A.F.A. form on which you must specify as per "Safety Recall 04-13". You also have to fill the "Safety Recall Certification Sheet" provided with this bulletin and return it with your A.F.A. form to be reimbursed.

Parts disposition :

- Return to Prévost Car with A.F.A. for full reimbursement.



PREVOST

**Safety Recall
Certification Sheet
(Ref: Sr04-13)**

PREVOST - MEMBER
ISO 9001 & ISO 14001



SERIAL NUMBER: _____

PERFORMED BY		OWNER/OPERATOR	
We hereby certify that Safety Recall instructions with regard to Safety Recall #04-13 have been performed.			
Name: _____		Name: _____	
Addr: _____		Addr: _____	
Phone: _____		Phone: _____	
Fax: _____		Fax: _____	
Signature :	_____	Signature :	_____
Date:	_____	Date:	_____

If the information mentioned above is incorrect or you are not the owner of this vehicle anymore, please fill this section and return to sender..

NEW OWNER: _____

BUSINESS: _____

ADDRESS (including County): _____

TELEPHONE: _____ **FAX:** _____

**Please return this completed document with your
A.F.A. form**

September 13, 2004

DEFECT NOTIFICATION

Dear Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of U.S.A.

Prévost Car Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2004 H3-45 VIP, H3-41 and H3-45 coaches, and in certain 2005 MTH XL2-40 & XL2-45, MTH XL2-45 Entertainer and XL2-45 coaches. Prévost Car Inc., as coach manufacturer, has recently noticed that:

On the vehicles mentioned below, material that does not meet Prévost Car requirements may have been installed on the front suspension of I-beam axle equipped vehicles and on the rear suspension of all vehicles. It is necessary to inspect the radius rod support pins to ensure that no cracks are present. This inspection will determine if the radius rod support pins need replacement. For more information or help on how to perform this safety recall, please contact your service manager or the nearest service center.

H3-45 VIP, H3-41 & H3-45 Coaches Model Year: 2004	From 2PCV3349641014907 up to 2PCH3349641014981 Incl.
MTH XL2-40, MTH XL2-45 & XL2-45 Entertainer & XL2-45 Coaches Model Year: 2005	From 2PCX3349651028381 up to 2PCX3349651028438 Incl.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

You must refer to the enclosed Safety Recall no. 04-13 and perform the stated procedure. Federal regulation requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT:

In order to verify and document the corrective action taken on your vehicle(s) pursuant to the requirements of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations, we are enclosing a "SAFETY RECALL CERTIFICATION" sheet. When the vehicle(s) is (are) repaired, this (these) sheet(s) must be completed and returned to PRÉVOST CAR INC. head office.

LABOR & PARTS REIMBURSEMENT:

Prévost Car Inc. will reimburse you parts and labor incurred.

Federal laws require that you be informed of your right to notify the Department of Transportation if you are unable to have the defect remedied without charge. The address for this purpose is:

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Washington, DC 20590

USA

Auto Safety Hotline: 1-888-327-4238.

If any assistance is required, please contact your local distributor or the PRÉVOST CAR INC. after sales service department.

We regret any inconvenience which this situation may cause you. However, we are concerned about your safety, rest assured that PRÉVOST CAR INC. is making all efforts to remedy the defect as quickly as possible in the interest of motor vehicle safety.

Truly yours,



Josyane Côté, E.I.T.
Technical Publications Manager.