



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

JUN 17 2004

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF DEFECT INFORMATION
REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. 04E-038 by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: **May 19, 2004**

Date Faxed: **June 17, 2004**

MANUFACTURER: STRUCTURAL COMPOSITES INDUSTRIES

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: JOHN COURSEN

FAX: 909-594-3939

SUBJECT: 2,030 SCI COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS FUEL CONTAINERS, MODEL ALT823D, P/N 1273147, EQUIPPED ON CERTAIN 2003 AND 2004 ORION VII TRANSIT BUSES. THE NVG CONTAINER'S PRESSURE RELIEF DEVICES FAIL TO TIMELY AND FULLY ACTIVATE AS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 304, "COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS FUEL CONTAINER INTEGRITY." IN THE EVENT OF A VEHICLE FIRE WITH THE FUEL SYSTEM ROOF ENCLOSURE REMOVED OR OPENED, THE FUEL CONTAINER'S PRESSURE RELIEF DEVICES MAY NOT ACTIVATE AS THEY ARE DESIGNED TO DO AND THE FUEL CONTAINER COULD RUPTURE AND EXPLODE. SUCH AN EXPLOSION, IF IT WERE TO OCCUR, COULD CAUSE SERIOUS INJURIES OR DEATH TO OCCUPANTS OF THE BUS OR TO PERSONS OUTSIDE THE BUS.

This is an acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be written only if we have additional comments or concerns.

Please provide us with a draft owner notification letter for our review before mailing to consumers.

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin July 18, 2004. Therefore, the SCI's first quarterly report will be due in this office on or before October 30, 2004.



DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE
888-DASH-2-DOT
888-327-4238

If you have any questions, please call:

Kelly

Kelly Schuler, Safety Defect Analyst or George Person, Chief
at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX (202) 366-7882
Recall Management Division
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