



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

AUG 13 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. **04V-398** by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: **August 05, 2004**

Date Faxed: **August 13, 2004**

MANUFACTURER: **FREIGHTLINER LLC**

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: **TIMOTHY BLUBAUGH**

FAX: **503-745-6800**

SUBJECT: 2,125 THOMAS BUILT SCHOOL BUSES BUILT BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 1995, AND FEBRUARY 29, 1996, WHICH ARE PREDOMINATELY OPERATED ON UNIMPROVED ROADS, MAY HAVE DEVELOPED CRACKS IN THE BUS BODY FRAMING STRUCTURE MEMBERS (RAFTERS) NEAR THE HORIZONTAL WINDOW HEADER WELDS AND AT THE SIDE EMERGENCY EXIT DOORS. FREIGHTLINER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED THE AGENCY WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE DEFECT AS IT RELATES TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY.

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 and envelope for our review before mailing to consumers.

If you have any questions, please call:

Kelly Schuler, Safety Defect Analyst or George Person, Chief
at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX (202) 366-7882
Recall Management Division
kschuler@nhtsa.dot.gov



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