



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

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

Assigned Recall No. **04V-543** by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: **November 12, 2004**

Date Faxed/E-Mailed: **November 17, 2004**

MANUFACTURER: **Orion Bus Industries, Inc.**

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: **Joe Labonte, Compliance and Safety Officer**

FAX: **905-403-8800**

SUBJECT: 545 Orion 2002-2004 VII buses equipped with compressed natural gas fuel containers. The thermal properties of the original exhaust blanket were insufficiently achieved with the component supplied. The performance of the exhaust temperature and the exhaust blanket were incorrectly evaluated for the supplied blanket. The exhaust blanket can be degraded and loose insulating value. Surrounding components can degrade in the engine compartment and can malfunction due to the effect on wires and hoses.

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

This recall was the subject of Preliminary Evaluation, PE04-071, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

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

If you have any questions, please call:

Patricia Wallace, Safety Defects Analyst on (202) 366-5232 or
George Person, Chief on (202) 366-5210
or Fax at (202) 366-7882
or e-mail at Patricia.Wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov
Recall Management Division