



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

MAR 17 2005

DAN C. ALLEN
NORTH AMERICAN BUS INDUSTRIES, INC.
106 NATIONAL DRIVE
ANNISTON AL 36207

NVS-215
05V-088

Subject: HYDRAULIC POWER STEERING

Dear ALLEN:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records, as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

NABI/35LFW/1998-2005
NABI/40CLFW/1998-2005
NABI/40LFW/1998-2005
NABI/45CLFW/1998-2005
NABI/60LFW/1998-2004

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-088

Recall Date: February 25, 2005

Components:

STEERING:HYDRAULIC POWER ASSIST SYSTEM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3,680

Summary:

ON CERTAIN TRANSIT BUSES, THE FRONT AXLE STOPS AND THE POWER STEERING GEAR HYDRAULIC LIMIT VALVES WERE FOUND TO BE OUT OF ADJUSTMENT. THE DRAG LINK MAY EXPERIENCE PERMANENT DEFORMATION DUE TO THE STEERING LOAD.

Consequence:

DURING LONG TERM OPERATION INVOLVING REPEATED FLEXING OF THE DRAG LINK, IT MAY EVENTUALLY CRACK AND BREAK. THE DRIVER WILL NO LONGER HAVE STEERING CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE AND A CRASH COULD OCCUR CAUSING INJURY OR DEATH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND REPLACE THE DRAG LINKS WITH A STRONGER DRAG LINK. DEALERS WILL ALSO INSPECT THE STEERING GEAR HYDRAULIC LIMIT VALVE SETTINGS. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN MARCH 31, 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT NABI AT 256-831-4296.

Notes:

NABI RECALL NO. 20052. CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236.

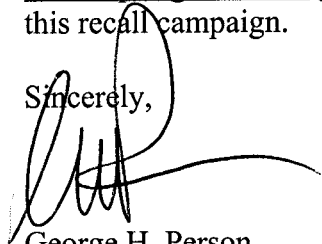
Effective October 21, 2004, a manufacturer must provide an estimated dealer notification date as well as an owner notification date (month/day/year) when submitting a defect/noncompliance report (Part 573.6).

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, 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, the recall is expected to begin March 31, 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by July 30, 2005.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov or delia.lopez@nhtsa.dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division