



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

MAR 28 2005

KEITH PFANNENSTIEL
OPTIMA BUS CORP
VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGINEERING
P.O. BOX 19140
WICHITA KS 67204-9140

NVS-215
05V-110

Subject: FUEL LIFT PUMP/CUMMINS/ENGINE STALLING

Dear MR.PFANNENSTIEL:

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:

OPTIMA/AH-28/1998-2003
OPTIMA/OPUS 29/1998-2003
OPTIMA/OPUS 34/1998-2003
OPTIMA/RT-52/1998-2003

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-110

Recall Date: March 18, 2005

Components:

FUEL SYSTEM, DIESEL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 417

Summary:

ON CERTAIN TROLLEYS EQUIPPED WITH CUMMINS ISB DIESEL ENGINES, THE FUEL LIFT PUMP COULD FAIL IN A MANNER WHICH RESULTS IN ENGINE FUEL STARVATION, WHICH COULD RESULT IN A STALL CONDITION. POTENTIAL LIFT PUMP FAILURE MODES INCLUDE: BRUSH WEAR OUT, BUSHING FAILURE, ROTOR TAB INSERT FAILURE, OR ANY OTHER FAILURE MODE THAT WOULD CAUSE THE FUEL PUMPING ELEMENT TO STOP SPINNING.

Consequence:

IF THE FUEL LIFT PUMP PUMPING ELEMENT STOPS SPINNING AND THE FUEL PUMPING VANES STOP IN A LOCATION WHICH BLOCKS FUEL FLOW THROUGH THE LIFT PUMP, THE ENGINE WILL BE STARVED OF FUEL. FUEL STARVATION COULD CAUSE LOW ENGINE POWER, ENGINE MISFIRE, OR ENGINE STALL. PRIOR TO THE ENGINE STALLING, THE OPERATOR COULD EXPERIENCE LOW ENGINE POWER, ENGINE MISFIRE, AND/OR DASH-MOUNTED FAULT LAMP ILLUMINATION.

Remedy:

CUMMINS IS CONDUCTING THE OWNER NOTIFICATION AND REMEDY FOR THIS CAMPAIGN. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT CUMMINS AT 1-800-343-7357 OR OPTIMA AT 316-779-7700.

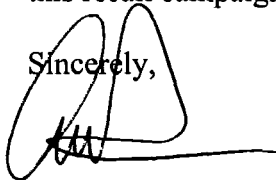
Notes:

CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236.

As stated in your report, Cummins will be handling the owner notification, remedy, and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.5 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Cummins' campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "G. Person", written over a horizontal line.

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division