



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

MR. LUC GUILLEMETTE  
SERVICE & WARRANTY MANAGER  
GIRARDIN MINIBUS INC.  
TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY  
DRUMMONDVILLE, QUEBEC  
CANADA J2B 6V4

NVS-215kjs  
05V-141

Subject: FMVSS 222/CHILD RESTRAINT ANCHORAGE

Dear MR. GUILLEMETTE:

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 information will be made available to the public.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**  
GIRARDIN/MB II/2003-2005  
GIRARDIN/MB IV/2003-2005

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 05V-141

**Recall Date:** April 06, 2005

**Components:**  
CHILD SEAT:VEHICLE LATCH ANCHOR

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 194

**Summary:**

CERTAIN MY 2003-2005 GIRARDIN MB II AND MB IV SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN OCTOBER 23, 2003, AND DECEMBER 16, 2004, BUILT ON FORD AND GM CHASSIS. THE CHILD SEAT ANCHORAGE SYSTEM FAILS TO CONFORM TO FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 222, SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER SEATING AND CRASH PROTECTION.

**Consequence:**

THE SEAT BACK MAY NOT ABSORB ENOUGH ENERGY IN THE EVENT OF A VEHICLE CRASH, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO THE SEAT OCCUPANT.

**Remedy:**

GIRARDIN WILL NOTIFY ITS CUSTOMERS AND INSTALL A FLAT BAR ON EACH SIDE OF THE SEAT WHERE THE CHILD SEAT ANCHORAGE IS BOLTED TO INCREASE THE STRENGTH OF THE SEAT BACK. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2005. OWNERS WHO DO NOT RECEIVE THE FREE REMEDY WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME SHOULD CONTACT GIRARDIN AT 819-477-8222.

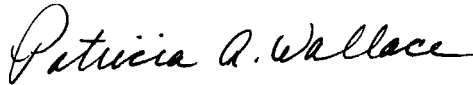
Effective October 21, 2004, Girardin must provide an estimated dealer notification date as well as an owner notification date including the month, day, and year.

This recall was the subject of an investigation, PE-222-050323, conducted by the Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

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).

Your contact for this recall will be KELLY SCHULER, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227 or by email at [KSCHULER@NHTSA.DOT.GOV](mailto:KSCHULER@NHTSA.DOT.GOV). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

*for*   
George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement