



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

AUG 15 2005

MS. ALLISON FUSCO
OFFICE MANAGER
VAN-CON, INCORPORATED
P.O. BOX 237
MIDDLESEX, NJ 08846-0237

NVS-215kjs
05V-308

Subject: STOP ARM MALFUNCTIONS

Dear MS. FUSCO:

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 accessible to the public.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

VAN-CON/SCHOOL BUS/2002-2005

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-308

Recall Date: June 30, 2005

Components:

OTHER:SCHOOL BUS STOP ARM ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 406

Summary:

VAN-CON 2002 THROUGH 2005 MODEL YEAR 15, 16, 20, 25, AND 30 PASSENGER SCHOOL BUSES BUILT ON GMC, CHEVROLET, AND FORD CHASSIS. IN EXTREMELY COLD WEATHER, THE MICROSWITCHES USED INTERNALLY TO POSITION THE STOP ARM SIGN IN THE OPEN AND CLOSED POSITIONS MAY MALFUNCTION, CAUSING THE SIGN TO OPEN OR CLOSE IN AN IMPROPER POSITION, OR TO NOT OPEN AT ALL.

Consequence:

SHOULD THE STOP ARM NOT PERFORM PROPERLY, A CHILD OR PEDESTRIAN MAY BE ENDANGERED BY PASSING VEHICLES SHOULD THE MOTORIST NOT STOP AT THE CORRECT LOCATION.

Remedy:

VAN-CON WILL NOTIFY ITS CUSTOMERS AND SPECIALTY MFG. WILL PROVIDE FREE OF CHARGE A SERVICE KIT (PART NUMBER 005178) WITH A SWITCH PACK THAT IS NOT SENSITIVE TO EXTREME COLD WEATHER AND WILL INSPECT TO ENSURE THE MICROSWITCH HEATER WIRING IS PROPERLY CONNECTED FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING AUGUST 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT SPECIALTY MFG. AT 800-951-7867 OR VAN-CON AT 732-356-8484.

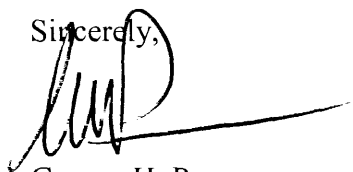
Notes:

ALSO, CUSTOMERS CAN CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236; (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV).

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and envelope and they meet the requirements of Part 577. 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. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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