

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

05 V-007
(5 pages)

On January 3, 2005, Starcraft Bus and Mobility decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety, a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217 exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: January 3, 2005

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 050103

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Starcraft Bus and Mobility, Division of Forest River, Inc.
2703 College Ave.
Goshen, In. 46528

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Bill Dettman

Standards and Compliance Administrator

Telephone Number: 1-(800) 348-7440 **Fax No.:** (574) 533-4337

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Bill Dettman
Standards and Compliance Administrator

Signed:

¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

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NHTSA

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, *for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:*

Make(s): Ford E-Series, General Motors GMT-600, GMT-610, GMT-560 Cutaway, International 3200 Model Years Involved: 2001-2005 Model(s): StarQuest, XLT, Allstar and Starlite.

Production Dates: Beginning: 09/2001 Ending: 01/2005

VIN Range: Beginning: N/A Ending: _____

Starcraft Bus and Mobility vehicles are not produced in sequential VIN order.

Vehicle Type: BUS Bodystyle: Cutaway

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

This recall includes only vehicles equipped with a rear exit door as supplied by Starcraft Bus and Mobility.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period. Approximately 40 to 60%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. **Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.**

Number of Vehicles:

Model StarQuest, XLT, Allstar and Starlite Year 2001-2004

Potentially Involved At this time, Starcraft Bus and Mobility is evaluating the total number of vehicles involved in this recall.

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: Still under evaluation by Starcraft Bus and Mobility.

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100% of all vehicles produced that have a rear exit door.

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

Starcraft Bus and Mobility was notified by NHTSA initially by mail of a non-conforming vehicle at the 2004 BusCon show in Chicago Illinois in November 2004.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

All vehicles of this model and type equipped with a rear exit door subject to this recall are subject to the following condition: The rear door is not labeled correctly to identify it as an Emergency Exit and instructions for opening the door are not affixed to the door.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Emergency Exit identification and instructional labeling was not installed.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

If the operation of the Emergency Exit Door is not understood, an occupant may not be able to open the door and exit the vehicle in the event of a crash.

Identify any warning that can (a) precede or (b) occur.

N/A

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

N/A

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

N/A

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

Starcraft Bus and Mobility is not aware of any reports, incidents, accidents, fatalities or warranty claims as a result of this concern. Starcraft Bus and Mobility was notified by NHTSA initially by mail of a non-conforming vehicle at the 2004 BusCon show in Chicago Illinois in November 2004. After initially reviewing the Standard and determining what models were affected, the remedy was determined and actions were initiated to correct all vehicles on-site. Starcraft Bus and Mobility then decided to voluntarily recall affected vehicles

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

In November 2004, the issue was brought to the attention of Starcraft Bus and Mobility. After initially reviewing the Standard and determining what models were affected, the remedy was determined and actions were initiated to correct all vehicles on-site. Starcraft Bus and Mobility then decided to voluntarily recall affected vehicles. No reports of this condition have been reported by customers or dealers.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Vehicles with the nonconformance do not have the rear Emergency Exit door identified and operating instructions for the door are not present. Vehicles with the remedy have the addition of Emergency Exit signage per Starcraft Bus and Mobility Engineering direction.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Recalled vehicles will have an Emergency Exit sign above the rear door and instructions for opening the door mounted near the handle of the door.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

The production remedy was the same as the recall remedy on all vehicles found on-site with the defect.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Notification to Dealers will begin immediately. Upon receipt of a Recall Number from NHTSA, the required documentation for this recall will be processed and implemented.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.