

05V-094
(6 pages)

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

On March 4, 2005, ORION BUS INDUSTRIES decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety and 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: March 4, 2005

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

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.

ORION BUS INDUSTRIES

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

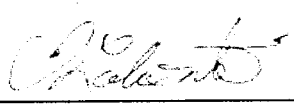
Joe Labonte
Compliance and Safety Officer
Member of American Society of Safety Engineers
Daimler Chrysler Commercial Bus North America
350 Hazelhurst Road
Mississauga, Ontario
L5T 4T8

Joe.Labonte@DCBUSNA.com
Telephone Number: (905) 403-7807
Fax: (905) 403-8808

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Joe Labonte

Signed: _____



¹Each 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. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

RECEIVED
2005 MAR 15 A 9:29
OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

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): ORION BUS INDUSTRIES **Model Years Involved:** 2002 **Model(s):** V

Production Dates: Beginning: 9/27/02 **Ending:** 7/13/04

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Certain specific identified VINs

Vehicle Type: Bus **Bodystyle:** Orion V

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

Only Orion V's having Transit Care Windows

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.

10%

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
Orion V	2002	25
Orion V	2003	142

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 167

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 50%

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:

All Orion Model V buses having a Transit Care window with specific part numbers.

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.

A window retention clip was found with a height dimension that would not properly retain the window latch.

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

Unknown at this time.

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

The Emergency Exit window can open with little outward force. A passenger can fall out of the bus.

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

There is no warning that the window is not properly latched.

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

Transit Care, Inc.
345 W. H Street
Colton, Ca. 92324
Phone : (909) 430-0050
FAX : (909) 430-0076

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:
Dale E. Carson, President

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.

Feb. 3, 2005 Orion Contract Manager receives a report of the incident from Golden Gate Transit, where a passenger exited the bus through and Emergency Exit Window, while the bus was in motion. Initial investigation found the window, with some force, may bypass the latch.

Feb. 4, 2005 Orion service, and Exponent investigate Golden Gate incident bus window.

March 3, 2005 Orion service along with a Transit Care representative visits Foothill Transit to determine if similar conditions occur.

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.

Test report No. RAD-3069

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.

Replace deformed window retention clips with new properly formed ones. Properly formed clips have a height dimension of 0.328 inches.

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

The Transit Care component installed in Orion V buses is of a different overall size.

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.

Orion has not used this window in production since July 13th, 2004. We currently do not have a requirement for this supplier's window.

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.

The four affected customers will receive a verbal contact regarding this condition Friday March 4th, 2005.

Transit Care has contacted the 5 potentially affected customers and are currently conducting inspection checks and remedy where required. Completion records are being maintained.

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.