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SENDER'S E-MAIL  
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March 29, 2005

VIA FACSIMILE AND  
CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL,  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. George H. Person  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Office of Defects Investigation  
400 7<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. NSA-11  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: **EIDorado National (California), Inc.**  
**Defect and Non-Compliance Report**  
**EQ05-005**

Dear Mr. Person:

Our firm is general counsel for ElDorado National (California), Inc. ("ElDorado"), 9670 Galena Street, Riverside, California 92509. ElDorado National received notification from Webasto Products North America, Inc. ("Webasto") that there is a potential safety-related defect with respect to the DBW 2010 model coolant heater assembled with a particular burner tube (part number 303046/26533A) supplied to ElDorado by Webasto. Webasto has already instituted a safety recall campaign in connection with this matter. The recall number assigned by NHTSA for Webasto's safety recall campaign is 05E-015.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain buses manufactured by ElDorado contain the Webasto coolant heater and burner tube that have been determined by Webasto to have a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety.

As more specifically set forth below, Webasto has agreed to conduct the recall campaign involving these defective coolant heater and burner tubes, including but not limited to providing notification to all of ElDorado's potential customers that are subject to the recall campaign, providing the necessary parts to repair the defect, and filing the quarterly reports in connection with the recall campaign.

05V-129

(3 PAGES)

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

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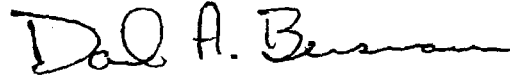
RECEIVED

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The defective Webasto coolant heaters and burner tubes supplied by Webasto have been used on certain 2003, 2004, and 2005 model year E-Z Rider II buses manufactured by ElDorado during the period from July 2003 through August 2004. The total number of buses subject to this recall campaign is 27, which includes 8 buses that have been sold in Canada. Based on information provided by Webasto, it is anticipated that less than 10% of these buses may actually contain the defect referred to below.
- B. Description of Defect. All of the buses subject to this recall campaign contain the DBW 2010 model coolant heater assembled with the Webasto burner tube that contains stainless steel material that is not to specification and could fail prematurely. This failure could lead to an increase in temperature of the exhaust system for the burner that could potentially ignite combustible materials in or around the bus.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. ElDorado received notification from Webasto on February 25, 2005 that a potential defect with the coolant heaters and burner tubes may exist.
- D. Remedying of Defect. As set forth in the notifications issued by Webasto in connection with recall campaign 05E-015, the burner tubes will be replaced with new certified burner tubes. The owners of the buses subject to this recall campaign will be advised to contact Webasto in order to make arrangements to have the remedy completed. Webasto has agreed to replace the defective burner tubes without charge to the owners.
- In order for Webasto to remedy the defect referred to above, all of the owners of the buses sold by ElDorado that are subject to this recall campaign must be notified. As of this date, ElDorado has completed its obligation to provide Webasto with the names and addresses of the current owners of such buses. Webasto will implement the recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in recall campaign 05E-015.
- E. Owner Notifications. Webasto has agreed to provide the notification letters to the owners of the buses that are subject to this recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in recall campaign 05E-015.
- F. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Webasto will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with recall campaign 05E-015. Because the information included by Cummins in its quarterly reports will encompass the remedying of the ElDorado buses subject to this recall campaign, ElDorado will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication.
- G. Campaign Number. ElDorado does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. ElDorado will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

Mr. George H. Person  
March 29, 2005  
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The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of ElDorado with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of ElDorado in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me at (937) 492-1271.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan A. Bensman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Daniel A. Bensman

dja

cc: ElDorado National (California), Inc. (via fax)  
Mr. John M. Garmhausen

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