



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION  
 3033 WAYNE TRACE, FORT WAYNE, IN 46806-3968

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TRUCK GROUP

OFFICE OF DEFECTS  
 INVESTIGATION

OSV-031 (398)

March 30, 2005

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
 400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
 Washington D.C. 20590

**Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report**

Pursuant to Part 573.6 (c) (1), this Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report is submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration by **IC Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of International Truck and Engine Corporation.**

(1) IDENTIFICATION OF VEHICLES [Part 573.6 (c)(2)]

- Vehicle Models Involved:
  - IC Corporation RE School Bus (RESB)
  - IC Corporation RE Commercial Bus (RECB)
- Vehicle Manufacturing Dates:
  - RESB 09-02-2004 to 02-09-2005
  - RECB 01-28-2003 to 03-09-2005
- Other Identification Necessary to Describe Vehicles:
  - Having IROS suspension

(2) COMPONENT MANUFACTURER [Part 573.6 (c)(2)(iv)]

- This report does not relate to a component supplied by a manufacturer other than IC Corporation.
- Supplier Contact information: N/A

(3) VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED [Part 573.6 (c)(3)]

957 Vehicles Total

Model	U.S. Quantity	Canadian Quantity
RESB	921	8
RECB	28	0
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>8</b>

(4) PERCENTAGE OF VEHICLES ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(4)]

- 100 % of the vehicles in the suspect population contain a variation of the defect.

- (5) *DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(5)]*
- RE School and Commercial busses built with IROS suspension can have metal to metal interference at driveline U-joint when operating at extreme working angles (full bump stop or full rebound).
  - This U-joint interference can loosen the axle strap or cause the strap or strap bolts to break because of fatigue stresses, causing the driveshaft to separate from the axle yoke.
  - If the drive shaft separates from the vehicle, it could come in contact with other vehicles on or near the roadway, possibly resulting in vehicle damage, personal injury or death.
- (6) *CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF A SAFETY DEFECT or TEST RESULTS THAT LED TO DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE [Part 573.6 (c)(6)/(7)]*
- 02/03/2005 IC notified that driveshaft fell out of a RE bus in Scottsdale, AZ.
  - 02/07/2005 International/IC implemented a new shock absorber in Conway Assembly Plant production to limit rebound travel.
  - 02/18/2005 International/IC begins investigation of contributing factors.
  - 03/08/2005 International/IC received failed driveline parts from dealership and performed analysis. Parts showed wear in yoke where strap or bolt was rubbing due to severe angle.
  - 03/10/2005 International/IC changed driveline configuration on 21K and 19.8K axle ratings at the Conway Assembly Plant.
  - 03/17/2005 International/IC completed its analysis of units affected and determined the extent of the suspect population.
  - 03/23/2005 International/IC declares recall.
- (7) *PROGRAM TO REMEDY DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)]*
- All suspect vehicles may require replacement of one or more parts. There are three categories of required fixes, depending on the VIN of the vehicle.
    - #1 requires replacing the axle stop, shock, straps, and reorienting or replacing the driveshaft.
    - #2 requires replacing the shocks, straps, and reorienting or replacing the driveshaft.
    - #3 requires replacing straps, and reorienting or replacing the driveshaft.
- (8) *PLAN FOR REIMBURSEMENT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]*
- Because there are vehicles that fall outside the warranty period, our plan for reimbursement of pre-notification remedies, on file and dated 2/6/2003 applies.
- (9) *SCHEDULE FOR RECALL NOTIFICATION [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]*
- Part availability is undetermined as of the date of this report. If parts do not become available within 60 days of the date of this report, customers will receive an Interim Notice according to the following schedule:
    - Notify IC Customers by: May 26, 2005

(10) *RECALL NUMBER [Part 573.6 (c)(11)]*

- Recall 05508.

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (260) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. L. Van Laar".

R. L. Van Laar  
Compliance Manager