



05V-192

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OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

April 29, 2005

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 7th Street, S.W. Suite 5319
Washington, D.C. 20590

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations - Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Collins Bus Corporation is submitting information relating to a safety recall we are conducting. Specific information is as follows:

573.6(c)(1)
Collins Bus Corporation, a division of Collins Industries, Inc., is the manufacturer of the vehicles affected by this safety recall.

573.6(c)(2)
This recall affects Collins "Bantam", "Super Bantam", or "Grand Bantam" model school buses equipped with 24 inch wide bench-style passenger seats. The vehicles were manufactured between April 22, 2002 and April 27, 2005 at the South Hutchinson, Kansas assembly plant.

573.6(c)(3)
Collins Bus Corporation built 101 (one hundred-one) vehicles with the noncompliance before the problem was recognized and corrected. The majority of the vehicles are in the possession of end users. Some vehicles are in the possession of Collins Bus distributors awaiting delivery to end users.

The number of seats installed in each vehicle varies from 1 to 5. The total number of seats installed in the 101 vehicles is 184 (one hundred eighty-four).

573.6(c)(4)
An estimated 100% of the recall population contains the noncompliance.

573.6(c)(5)
The vehicles in question are equipped with bench-style single passenger seats having a lower cushion seating surface measuring 24 inches in width. These seats should have a seating surface of only 22 inches wide to have a single designated seating position according to NHTSA's interpretation of 49CFR571.222.

573.6(c)(6)
On April 27, 2005, Brian Smith of NHTSA called Collins Bus Corporation to report his analysis of the 24 inch wide seat in a Collins school bus being audited by NHTSA. Mr. Smith referenced various NHTSA interpretation letters which stated the number of designated seating positions in a school bus should be defined by 49CFR571.222 "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection" instead of 49CFR571.3 "Definitions". Mr. Smith stated the 24 inch wide seat did not conform to the 49CFR571.222 definition of a seat having a single designated seating position. Collins Bus Corporation decided to recall other vehicles equipped with 24 inch wide seats to address this nonconformance.

573.6(c)(7)
The determination of the noncompliance was based on input from Brian Smith of NHTSA, various interpretation letters, and a mathematical calculation referenced by 49CFR571.222 for determining the number of designated seating positions on a school bus bench-type seat. According to this mathematical calculation, the 24 inch wide seating surfaces would have two designated seating positions instead of one.

573.6(c)(8)

Collins Bus Corporation

The remedy of the nonconformance will include replacement of the 24 inch wide seat cushion with a new cushion measuring 22 inches wide at the seating surface. Once the new cushion is installed, the seat will conform to the dimensions of a seat with one designated seating position according to NHTSA's interpretation of 49CFR571.222. The replacement of the seat cushion is a simple procedure and may be easily performed by the vehicle owner.

All vehicle owners will be notified the week of May 2, 2005. Notification will consist of a description of the nonconformance, a brief description of the repair procedure, instruction on how to obtain repair parts (in this case, replacement seat cushions), and instructions on how to repair the vehicle.

An Owner Response Postcard will be provided to the owner to confirm if the repair is completed or not required. The proposed Owner Notification letter and Owner Response Postcard samples are attached.

573.6(c)(9)

Attached is a copy of the proposed Owner Notification letter which Collins Bus Corporation will send to the vehicle owners. A copy of this letter will also be sent to Collins Bus distributors so they will be informed of the situation.

573.6(c)(10)

Attached is a copy of the proposed Owner Notification letter and Owner Response Postcard which Collins Bus Corporation will send to the vehicle owners.

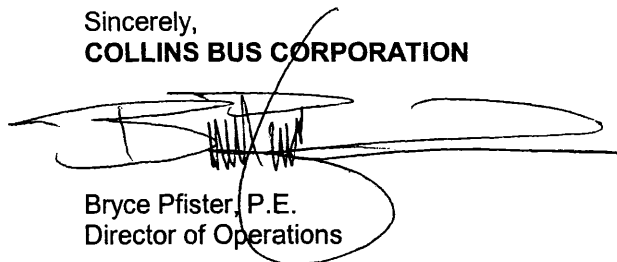
573.6(c)(11)

Collins Bus Corporation will use the campaign identification number assigned by NHTSA "05V-192".

Should you need further information, my contact information is as follows:

Phone: 620-662-9000 or 800-533-1850 X479
Fax: 620-662-3838
E-mail: bryce.pfister@collinsbus.com
Mailing Address: Collins Bus Corporation
P.O. Box 2946
Hutchinson, KS 67504-2946

Sincerely,
COLLINS BUS CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryce Pfister', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large loop at the end and some vertical strokes in the middle.

Bryce Pfister, P.E.
Director of Operations

May 5, 2005



Collins Unit# 32736 VIN 1GBJG31U741214782
Recall# 05V-192
MILLBURN BOE
434 MILLBURN AVE
MILLBURN, NJ 07041

Re: **SAFETY RECALL NOTICE**

Collins Bus Corporation Recall # 05V-192, Seat Cushion Width

Dear Collins Bus Corporation Customer,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Collins Bus Corporation has decided that certain 2002-2005 Collins "Bantam", "Super Bantam", or "Grand Bantam" model school bus equipped with 24 inch wide bench-style passenger seats fail to comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 222, "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection".

Reason For This Recall:

Your vehicle is equipped with 24 inch wide bench-style passenger seats that are equipped with a single lap belt to indicate the utilization by a single passenger. According to interpretations of FMVSS 222, these seats should have a seating surface of only 22 inches wide to have a single designated seating position. Because the 24 inch wide cushion is wider than 22 inches, the potential exists for two passengers to be seated in this seat. A second passenger would not have an available seatbelt for restraint and may be injured in a crash.

The remedy of this nonconformance will include replacement of the 24 inch wide seat cushion with a new cushion measuring 22 inches wide at the seating surface. Once the new cushion is installed, the seat will conform to the dimensions of a seat with one designated seating position. We request that you address this issue as soon as possible.

Vehicle Repair Procedure:

The remedy of this nonconformance will include replacement of the 24 inch wide seat cushion(s) with a new cushion(s) measuring 22 inches wide at the seating surface. To obtain replacement a replacement cushion(s) for seats installed in you vehicle(s), please contact Collins Bus Customer Service at 1-800-533-1850. The parts will be shipped to you free of charge.

Once you have received the replacement cushion(s), you may remove the existing 24 inch wide seat cushion(s). On the underside of each cushion are two swivel clips that retain the cushion. Turn these to release the cushion. Install a new cushion and secure it in place using the two swivel clips on the underside of the cushion. You should discard the old cushion.

The replacement of the seat cushion is a simple procedure which you may easily perform. If you would prefer to not perform this repair yourself, you may contact a Collins Bus distributor to perform the repair.

Estimated Repair Time:

Estimated repair time is 5 minutes per seat. Warranty allowance procedures will cover the vehicle service required in this program. If this repair has been performed prior to this Safety Recall Notice, you may be entitled to reimbursement. Please notify Collins Bus Customer Service if this is the case when filing a claim.

Owner Response Postcard:

You have been sent an Owner Response Postcard because our records indicate that you are the most recent known owner of this vehicle. If you are the current owner of the vehicle, please fill out the appropriate information and status of the repairs. If the vehicle was inspected and determined to not need repair, please indicate this. Please sign the Owner Response Postcard it and return it to us after any necessary vehicle repairs are complete.

Change of Address or Ownership:

If you are not current owner of the vehicle, please indicate this on the Owner Response Postcard and return the card to us. If you have leased this vehicle to another party, federal regulations require that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Federal Law requires that Collins Bus Corporation advise customers of the procedure to follow in informing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration if the nonconformance is not remedied without charge within a reasonable time after the vehicle is tendered for repair. Customers or distributors may contact Collins Bus Corporation Customer Service at 1-800-533-1850 for assistance. Customers may also report difficulty to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Washington, D.C., 20590, or call the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236.

We regret the inconvenience this service may cause you. Please be assured that Collins Bus Corporation is striving to build our buses with the best value and safety available. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,
COLLINS BUS CORPORATION



Virgil Schremmer
Customer Service Manager

SAMPLE

May 5, 2005



RE: Collins Bus Corporation Recall # 05V-192, Seat Cushion Width

Dear Collins Bus Corporation Distributor,

The intent of this letter is to keep you informed of a Safety Recall we are conducting.

Collins Bus Corporation has decided that a noncompliance issue which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in Collins "Bantam", "Super Bantam", or "Grand Bantam" model school bus(es) equipped with 24 inch wide bench-style passenger seats. The 24 inch wide bench-style passenger seats are equipped with a single lap belt to indicate the utilization by a single passenger. According to interpretations of FMVSS 222, these seats should have a seating surface of only 22 inches wide to have a single designated seating position. Because the 24 inch wide cushion is wider than 22 inches, the potential exists for two passengers to be seated in this seat. A second passenger would not have an available seatbelt for restraint and may be injured in a crash.

The remedy of this nonconformance will include replacement of the 24 inch wide seat cushion with a new cushion measuring 22 inches wide at the seating surface. Once the new cushion is installed, the seat will conform to the dimensions of a seat with one designated seating position.

Attached you will find a sample copy of the Owner Notification letter we are sending to the last known owner of the vehicles in question. The replacement of the seat cushion is a simple procedure which the vehicle owner may easily perform. If the owner prefers to not perform this repair, we have instructed the owner to contact a Collins Bus distributor to perform the repair. Should a customer contact you and request such a repair, please contact Collins Bus Customer Service at 1-800-533-1850 for assistance.

Federal Law requires that Collins Bus Corporation advise customers of the procedure to follow in informing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration if the nonconformance is not remedied without charge within a reasonable time after the vehicle is tendered for repair. Customers or distributors may contact Collins Bus Corporation Customer Service at 1-800-533-1850 for assistance. Customers may also report difficulty to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Washington, D.C., 20590, or call the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236.

We regret the inconvenience this service may cause you. Please be assured that Collins Bus Corporation is striving to build our buses with the best value and safety available. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,
COLLINS BUS CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Virgil Schremmer", is written over the printed name and title.

Virgil Schremmer
Customer Service Manager

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192**Owner1 Name
ARCOLA BUS**

Number of Units: 38

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
31502	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U031110696	NJ DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES	Yes
31504	CGB5L-12G	1GBJG31U431111334	NJ DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES	Yes
31953	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31U931191469	UNION COUNTY BOE	Yes
31954	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31U731193642	UNION COUNTY BOE	Yes
31996	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31U131227901	EAST WINDSOR REG SD	Yes
31998	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31U831227569	HAMILTON TWP BOE	Yes
32040	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31U731227935	PASSAIC CITY ELKS CP HS	Yes
32059	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31U131230085	NORTHERN BURLINGTON	Yes
32060	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31U531230056	FRANKLIN TWP BOE	Yes
32145	CGB6-12G	1GBJG31U231230743	FRANKLIN TWP BOE	Yes
32146	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31UX31230232	FRANKLIN TWP BOE	Yes
32259	CGBWR6-12G	1GBJG31U441143881	KEAN UNIVERSITY	Yes
32261	CGB6-12G	1GBJG31U841143785		No
32701	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U841144516	BERGEN CO. SPEC. SVCS	Yes
32725	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31UX41145893	WARREN COUNTY SPECIAL SVS.BOE	Yes
32726	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U341146349	BRIDGETON BOE	Yes
32727	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U841146119	COLTS NECK TWP BOE	Yes
32728	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U841146167	MIDDLE TWP BOE	Yes
32729	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U841146301	VINELAND BOE	Yes
32730	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U141145524	PARSIPPANY TROY HILLS	Yes
32731	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U141145572	KEARNY BOE	Yes
32732	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31UX41145800	BERGENFIELD BOE	Yes
32733	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U641216636	MAHWAH BOE	Yes
32734	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U141216303	TABERNACLE TOWNSHIP BOE	Yes
32735	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U041217166	JONES TRANSPORTATION	Yes
32736	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U741214782	MILLBURN BOE	Yes
32737	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U541215042	KATZENBACH SCHOOL	Yes
32738	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U841217089	VINELAND BOE	Yes
32739	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U641216135	THE SPECIAL CHILDREN CENTER	Yes
32740	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U241215449	BERKLEY HTS BOE	Yes
32741	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U441216716	MERCY TRANSPORTATION	Yes
32742	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31UX41216946	EAST WINDSOR REG. SCHOOLS	Yes
33021	CGB5L-12G	1GBJG31U841245801	SOUTHERN REGIONAL	Yes
33022	CGB5L-12G	1GBJG31U941240140	SOUTHERN REGIONAL	Yes
33046	CGB5L-12G	1GBJG31U241243963	FANLDIN TWP BOE	Yes
33047	CGB5L-12G	1GBJG31U441244113	EAST BRUNSWICK	Yes
33222	CGB5L-12G	1GBJG31U351105205	MILLBURN	Yes
33894	CGB6WR-12G	1GBJG31U051105162		No

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192

Owner1 Name
ATEL

Number of Units: 1

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
32770	CGB6-12G	1GBJG31U341224029	THE BULLIS SCHOOL, INC.	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192**Owner1 Name
A-Z BUS SALES**

Number of Units: 6

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
32256	FGBWR6-14D	1FDWE45F73HB58837	FALLBROOK UNION ELEM.SCH.DST	Yes
32257	FGBWR6-14D	1FDWE45F93HB58838		No
32343	FGB6WR-14D	1FDXE45P24HA74536	SALINAS UNION HIGH	Yes
32561	FGB6WR-14D	1FDXE45P04HA56682		No
32589	FGB6WR-14D	1FDXE45PX4HA54857	MICHAEL'S TRANS	Yes
33257	FHB4-9D	1FDSE35P04HA49834	HOOPA TRIBAL EARLY HEADSTART	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192**Owner1 Name
BEACH TRANSPORTATION**

Number of Units: 6

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
32780	FLB4-9D	1FDSE35P34HB10478	TRANSCO LLC	Yes
32781	FLB4-9D	1FDSE35P54HB10479	TRANSCO LLC	Yes
32782	FLB4-9D	1FDSE35P14HB10480	TRANSCO LLC	Yes
32783	FLB4-9D	1FDSE35P34HB10481	TRANSCO LLC	Yes
32784	FLB4-9D	1FDSE35P54HB10482	TRANSCO LLC	Yes
32785	FLB4-9D	1FDSE35P74HB10483	TRANSCO LLC	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192

Owner1 Name
FOREMAN SALES

Number of Units: 1

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
33699	FGB6WR-14D	1FDXE45P15HA10411	LENNOX SCHOOL DISTRICT	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192**Owner1 Name
GE CAPITAL FLEET SERV**

Number of Units: 11

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
30557	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R321173879	CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY	Yes
30558	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R521174256	CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY	Yes
30559	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R321178497		No
30571	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R121175128	CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY	Yes
30572	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R921174602	CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY	Yes
30574	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R121174447	CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY	Yes
30575	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R221175395		No
30576	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R421174412	MARY HILLS SCHOOLS	Yes
30577	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31RX21175712	CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY	Yes
30578	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31R921176141	CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY	Yes
31154	CLB4-9G	1GBHG31U231119561	CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192

Owner1 Name
HARLOW BUS SALES

Number of Units: 1

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
33474	FGB6-14D	1FDXE45P25HA05363	ANNIE WRIGHT SCHOOL	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192

Owner1 Name
LIDLAW TRANSIT

Number of Units: 1

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
34806	FGB6-14D	1FDXE45P75HB02008		No

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192

Owner1 Name
LASSETER BUS

Number of Units: 1

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
30811	CLB5-9G	1GBHG31R121222349	TOT TOWN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CTR	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192

Owner1 Name
MCCANDLESS INT'L

Number of Units: 4

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
31685	FGBWR6-14D	1FDWE45F92HA10414		No
31686	FGBWR6-14D	1FDWE45F02HB33020		No
31687	FGBWR6-14D	1FDWE45F32HB44805		No
32772	FGB5WR-11D	1FDWE35P44HA78853	JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192**Owner1 Name
MIDWEST TRANSIT**

Number of Units: 8

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
32990	CSB4-10G	1GBHG31U541148487	NHTSA/OVSC	Yes
33482	CSB5-12G	1GBJG31U041157941	TRI-COUNTY OPP COUNCIL	Yes
33692	FHB4-9D	1FDSE35P75HA78488	CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS	Yes
33693	FHB4-9D	1FDSE35P95HA78489	CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS	Yes
33694	FHB4-9D	1FDSE35P55HA78490	CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS	Yes
33695	FHB4-9D	1FDSE35P65HA84248	CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS	Yes
33696	FHB4-9D	1FDSE35P85HA84249	CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS	Yes
33697	FHB4-9D	1FDSE35P45HA84250	CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192**Owner1 Name
PHH VEHICLE MGT**

Number of Units: 12

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
30902	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R521238318	KINDER CARE	Yes
30903	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R821239012	KINDER CARE	Yes
30960	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R821238362	KINDER CARE	Yes
30961	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31RX21238718	KINDER CARE	Yes
30962	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R821239236	KINDER CARE	Yes
30963	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R221238521	KINDER CARE	Yes
30964	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31RX21239089	KINDER CARE	Yes
30965	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R221238230	KINDER CARE	Yes
30966	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R321237233	KINDER CARE	Yes
30967	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R021238002	KINDER CARE	Yes
30968	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R621239171	KINDER CARE	Yes
30969	CLB4-9G	1GDHG31R621236898	KINDER CARE	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192

Owner1 Name
WESTERN BUS

Number of Units: 1

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
34066	CGB6-12G	1GBJG31U751105840	HEAD START OF LANE COUNTY	Yes

Safety Recall Number: 05V-192

Owner1 Name

ZIA BUS SALES

Number of Units: 10

Unit Number	Model	VIN	Owner2 Name	Owner2 Notified
31192	FLB4-9D	1FDSE35F23HA34404	LONNIE ROBERTS	Yes
31989	FSB4-11D	1FDWE35F53HB23742		No
31990	FSB4-11D	1FDWE35F23HB28736	SOUTH 14 BUS CO	Yes
31991	FSB4-11D	1FDWE35F03HA97776	SOUTH 14 BUS CO	Yes
32000	CSB4-12G	1GBJG31UX31185745	JOHN ANTHONY	Yes
32054	FSB4-11D	1FDWE35F63HB43711	KAISER INC	Yes
32143	FSB4-11D	1FDWE35F13HB43714	PLANT TRANS.	Yes
32144	FSB4-11D	1FDWE35F33HB43715		No
32155	FSB4-11D	1FDWE35P44HA24212	HECTOR RAMIREZ	Yes
33327	CSB4-12G	1GBJG31U641157104	SOUTHEAST NM COMM.	Yes



P.O. BOX 2946
HUTCHINSON, KS 67504-2946

SAMPLE

Collins Unit# 32736 VIN 1GBJG31U741214782

Recall# 05V-192

MILLBURN BOE
434 MILLBURN AVE
MILLBURN, NJ 07041

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

Recall# 05V-192