

Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance (NSA-01)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington, DC 20590

May 30, 2005

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

On May 26, 2005, U.S. Bus Corporation decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety, and a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 222, exists in items of motor vehicle equipment described below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49CFR Part 573 **Defect and Noncompliance Reports**.

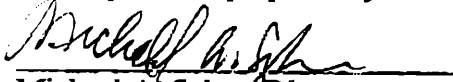
This report was prepared on May 30, 2005, by

U.S. Bus Corporation
3 Pat Malone Drive
P.O. Box 329
Suffern, New York 10901
Mfr. ID Code 000315

All correspondence relating to this issue should be directed to:

Michael A. Sykes, Director
Product and Business Development
U.S. Bus Corporation
3927 Elizabeth Street
Richmond, Indiana 47374
Phone: (765) 939-3984
Fax: (765) 939-4375
Cell: (845) 641-4898

This report was prepared by:



Michael A. Sykes, Director
Product and Business Development

The item involved in this recall is a 30-inch wide restraining barrier(s) located in front of the forwardmost seat not having another seat in front of it.

Model years involved are 2004 and, possibly, a small number of 2005 m/y vehicles. We anticipate that the total number of vehicles to be recalled will be 15%, or less, of our total production during the affected period.

We have determined that a total of 100 of the suspect barriers were manufactured, which will be subject to this recall; while some vehicles to be inspected will have only one (1) of the affected barriers, some could have two (2) or even more. Thus, as we identify the affected vehicle and the number of suspect barriers in each vehicle, the total number of vehicles to be inspected will be reduced.

The recall population will be determined by running a report of vehicles produced, having 30-inch barriers installed during the period of time in which the suspect barriers were manufactured – April, 2004, and June, 2004.

The defect involves improper/missing welds on the barrier support; in the event of a frontal collision, the barrier may fail to properly restrain the front-seated passenger(s) in accordance with FMVSS 222.

The suspect barriers were purchased by U.S. Bus Corporation from:

C.E. White Company
P.O. Box 308
New Washington, Ohio 44854
Contact: Scott Hiler
Phone: (419) 492-2157

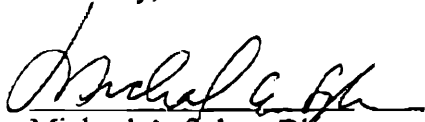
The defect was discovered by personnel from NHTSA while doing routine testing of a vehicle purchased from U.S. Bus Corporation, and tested at MGA Research Center, on or about May 19, 2005. U.S. Bus Corporation is not aware of any injuries or deaths resulting from any accidents, nor has it received any warranty claims relating to this defect.

The remedy for this defect will be to visually inspect each suspect barrier, per drawings to be furnished by C.E. White Company, for missing welds; if a barrier is determined to be incorrectly welded, the remedy will further provide instructions for the welding and re-painting of the affected areas or, if the customer prefers, C.E. White will provide a replacement barrier.

At the present time, we anticipate having all necessary documentation in place and should begin notifying customers by the end of June, 2005.

Further documentation will be sent to you as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Sykes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Michael A. Sykes, Director
Product and Business Development
U.S. Bus Corporation