

Safety Defect and Noncompliance report Guide for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**<sup>1</sup>

05V-321  
(19 pages)

On June 3, 2005 NEOPLAN USA CORP. [MFR] decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety (~~a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. \_\_\_\_\_~~) 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: June 27, 2005

Furnish the Manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable)

Vapor Doors Base Plate Assembly

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabrication 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.

NEOPLAN USA CORPORATION

700 Auwaerter Drive

Lamar, CO 81052

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

Carol Roberts, Warranty Manager (Carol.Roberts@Neoplanusa.com)

700 Auwaerter Drive

Lamar, CO 81052

Telephone Number: 719-336-3256 ex. 283 Fax No.: 719-336-7552

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Don Yoxsimer, Publications Manager

Don.Yoxsimer@Neoplanusa.com

Signed: 

7/11/05

<sup>1</sup> Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition, which relates to motor vehicle safety.

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
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NHTSA-215

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): Neoplan Model Years Involved 2003 Model(s): AN460 Articulated (QC)

Production Dates: Beginning: March 2000 Ending: January 2003

VIN Range: Beginning: 1N9TA11AXLL013011 Ending: 1N9TA39A92L013077

Vehicle Type: Transit Bus Bodystyle: Articulated Standard Floor

Make(s): Neoplan Model Years Involved: 2004 Model(s): AN460 Articulated (QCO)

Production Dates: Beginning: January 2002 Ending: January 2003

VIN Range: Beginning: 1N9TA39A03L013101 Ending: 1N9TA39A13L013110

Vehicle Type: Transit Bus Bodystyle: Articulated Standard Floor

Make(s): Neoplan Model Years Involved: 2004 Model(s): AN460 Articulated (RB)

Production Dates: Beginning: January 2002 Ending: July 2004

VIN Range: Beginning: 1N9TA39A63L013118 Ending: 1N9TA39A13L013138

Vehicle Type: Transit Bus Bodystyle: Articulated Standard Floor

Make(s): Neoplan Model Years Involved: 2004 Model(s): AN460 Articulated (RC)

Production Dates: Beginning: December 2002 Ending: May 2004

VIN Range: Beginning: 1N9TA3HA33L013140 Ending: 1N9TA3HA54L013114

Vehicle Type: Transit Bus Bodystyle: Articulated Standard Floor

Make(s): Neoplan Model Years Involved 2004 Model(s): AN460 Articulated (RD)

Production Dates: Beginning: February 2004 Ending: June 2004

VIN Range: Beginning: 1N9TA3HA63L013234 Ending: 1N9TA3HA24L013068

Vehicle Type: Transit Bus (Suburban configuration) Bodystyle: Articulated Standard Floor

Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall Cont'd.

Make(s): Neoplan Model Years Involved: 2005 Model(s): AN440 Transliner (RV)

Production Dates: Beginning: Pilot bus RV- 01 07- 04 Ending: Pilot bus RV-01 07-04

VIN Range: Beginning: 1N9TA1HA65L013001 Ending: Same

Vehicle Type: Transit Bus Bodystyle: Transliner Standard Floor

Make(s): Neoplan Model Years Involved: 2005 Model(s): AN440 Low Floor (RQ)

Production Dates: Beginning: June 2004 Ending: March 2005

VIN Range: Beginning: 1N9TA1HA04L013123 Ending: 1N9TA1HA84L013256

Vehicle Type: Transit Bus Bodystyle: Transliner Low Floor

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguished the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall.

Identified buses use Vapor Doors two piece curved connecting rods linked to a Vapor medium pneumatic differential engine

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 equipment 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.

The product subject to recall was manufactured by Vapor Doors and installed in approximately 45 percent of all buses built by Neoplan during that period.

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

<u>Model(s)</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</u>
AN460 Articulated (QC)	2003	70
AN460 Articulated (QCO)	2004	10
AN460 Articulated (RB)	2004	21
AN460 Articulated (RC)	2004	49
AN460 Articulated (RD)	2004	36
AN440 Transliner (RV)	2005	01
AN440 Low Floor (RQ)	2005	124

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 311

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

100%

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:

Population determined from Vapor Bus International letter dated June 3, 2005 and from Neoplan production records.

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.

Vapor Bus International has made a preliminary determination that passenger door actuation linkage (connecting rods) in certain Vapor door base plate assemblies may be subject to fatigue failure.

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

Not identified by Vapor Bus International in their letter dated June 3, 2005

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

Consequences may include bent or broken passenger door operator connection rods. No other consequences identified in Vapor Bus International letter dated June 3, 2005

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

None identified in Vapor Bus International letter dated June 3, 2005

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

Vapor Bus International  
1010 Johnson Drive  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-6918

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

James R. Pearson  
Vice President, Marketing

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.

Letter received by Neoplan USA from Vapor Bus International dated June 3, 2005

Neoplan internal inquiry to identify population started June 6, 2005

Receipt of NHTSA NVS-215bc/EQ05-012 at factory June 23, 2005

No other information is available. This report will be updated as necessary

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.

N/A

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.

Vapor Bus International has indicated to Neoplan in their June 3 letter that they intend to notify Neoplan customers of the issue and then institute a phased campaign to remedy the defect. Remedy will include replacing the two piece connecting rod with a one piece rod.

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

Remedy component will have a solid rod connecting the pneumatic door engine with the door assembly Additional distinguishing characteristics of the remedy are not included in Vapor Bus International letter to Neoplan USA Corporation.

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.

N/A

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify and foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Vapor Bus International has stated that they will contact all Neoplan customers identified in this report. Neoplan will update this report as we receive information from Vapor.

Neoplan customers who purchased buses with suspect two piece door rods are listed on Attachment A.

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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.*

See Attachments B

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.

Vin#	Acceptance Date	Base Plate Assy	Neoplan #	Run	Contact Name
1N9TA11AXLL013011	23-Apr-90	50066256-00	QC2401101-011	QC	Michael Bluestone
1N9TA11A9LL013016	24-May-90				Westchester County DOT
1N9TA39AXYL013583	22-Nov-02				100 East First Street
1N9TA39A12L013011	06-Dec-01				Mount Vernon
1N9TA39A32L013012	20-Dec-01				NY
1N9TA39A52L013013	20-Dec-01				10550-3414
1N9TA39A72L013014	17-Dec-01				(914) 813-7762
1N9TA39A92L013015	17-Dec-01				
1N9TA39A02L013016	26-Dec-01				
1N9TA39A22L013017	03-Dec-01				
1N9TA39A42L013018	26-Dec-01				
1N9TA39A62L013019	24-Dec-01				
1N9TA39A22L013020	28-Dec-01				
1N9TA39A42L013021	31-Dec-01				
1N9TA39A62L013022	28-Dec-01				
1N9TA39A82L013023	11-Jan-02				
1N9TA39AX2L013024	14-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A12L013025	14-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A32L013026	14-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A52L013027	16-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A72L013028	18-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A92L013029	18-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A52L013030	18-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A72L013031	18-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A92L013032	18-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A02L013033	25-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A22L013034	30-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A42L013035	28-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A62L013036	01-Feb-02				
1N9TA39A82L013037	05-Feb-02				
1N9TA39AX2L013038	29-Jan-02				
1N9TA39A12L013039	01-Feb-02				
1N9TA39A82L013040	06-Feb-02				
1N9TA39AX2L013041	01-Feb-02				
1N9TA39A12L013042	08-Feb-02				
1N9TA39A32L013043	13-Feb-02				
1N9TA39A52L013044	08-Feb-02				

Neoplan USA Corp.  
Attachment A

1N9TA39A72L013045	14-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A92L013046	14-Feb-02		QC	Attachment A cont'd.
1N9TA39A02L013047	14-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A22L013048	14-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A42L013049	19-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A02L013050	19-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A22L013051	18-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A42L013052	21-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A62L013053	19-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A82L013054	22-Feb-02			
1N9TA39AX2L013055	21-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A12L013056	22-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A32L013057	25-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A52L013058	27-Feb-02			
1N9TA39A72L013059	04-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A32L013060	04-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A52L013061	04-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A72L013062	06-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A92L013063	11-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A02L013064	11-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A22L013065	08-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A42L013066	12-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A62L013067	15-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A82L013068	25-Mar-02			
1N9TA39AX2L013069	14-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A62L013070	19-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A82L013071	19-Mar-02			
1N9TA39AX2L013072	26-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A12L013073	26-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A32L013074	29-Mar-02			
1N9TA39A52L013075	26-Apr-02			
1N9TA39A72L013076	29-Apr-02			
1N9TA39A92L013077	01-May-02			
1N9TA39A63L013118	16-Jan-03	50066256-00	QC2401101-011	RB Bob Golden (Wrnty)
1N9TA39A83L013119	16-Jan-03			WMATA
1N9TA39A43L013120	16-Jan-03			2250 26th St., NE
1N9TA39A63L013121	16-Jan-03			Washington

1N9TA39A83L013122	16-Jan-03			DC
1N9TA39AX3L013123	16-Jan-03			20018
1N9TA39A13L013124	16-Jan-03			1-301-618-1218
1N9TA39A33L013125	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A53L013126	16-Jan-03			Attachment A cont'd.
1N9TA39A73L013127	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A93L013128	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A03L013129	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A73L013130	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A93L013131	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A03L013132	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A23L013133	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A43L013134	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A63L013135	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A83L013136	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39AX3L013137	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A13L013138	16-Jan-03			
1N9TA39A03L013101	31-Oct-02	50066256-00	QC2401101-011	QCO Michael Bluestone
1N9TA39A23L013102	31-Oct-02			Westchester
1N9TA39A43L013103	31-Oct-02			Westchester Co.
1N9TA39A63L013104	31-Oct-02			100 East First Street
1N9TA39A83L013105	16-Dec-02			Mount Vernon
1N9TA39AX3L013106	16-Dec-02			NY
1N9TA39A13L013107	16-Dec-02			10550-3414
1N9TA39A33L013108	16-Dec-02			(914) 813-7762
1N9TA39A53L013109	16-Dec-02			
1N9TA39A13L013110	16-Dec-02			
1N9TA1HA65L013001		50240148-00	RV2401101-001	RV-01 Michael Bluestone
1N9TA1HA85L013002				See above
1N9TA3HA33L013140	02-Sep-04	50240237-00	RC2401100-003	RC Bob Lacko
1N9TA3HA53L013141	02-Sep-04			NJ Transit, Warranty Admin
1N9TA3HA73L013142	02-Sep-04			601 Doremus Avenue
1N9TA3HA44L013069	13-Apr-04			Room # 212
1N9TA3HA04L013070	23-Apr-04			Newark, NJ 07105
1N9TA3HA24L013071	21-Apr-04			

1N9TA3HA44L013072	27-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA64L013073	30-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA84L013074	23-Apr-04
1N9TA3HAX4L013075	07-May-04
1N9TA3HA14L013076	07-May-04
1N9TA3HA34L013077	27-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA54L013078	30-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA74L013079	30-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA34L013080	07-May-04
1N9TA3HA54L013081	04-May-04
1N9TA3HA74L013082	11-May-04
1N9TA3HA94L013083	04-May-04
1N9TA3HA04L013084	11-May-04
1N9TA3HA24L013085	11-May-04
1N9TA3HA44L013086	14-May-04
1N9TA3HA64L013087	21-May-04
1N9TA3HA84L013088	02-Jun-04
1N9TA3HAX4L013089	02-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA64L013090	14-May-04
1N9TA3HA84L013091	18-May-04
1N9TA3HA43L013166	21-May-04
1N9TA3HA14L013093	21-May-04
1N9TA3HA34L013094	02-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA54L013095	02-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA74L013096	02-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA94L013097	04-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA04L013098	04-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA24L013099	01-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA54L013100	04-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA74L013101	04-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA94L013102	22-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA04L013103	16-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA24L013104	15-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA44L013105	18-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA64L013106	22-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA84L013107	18-Jun-04
1N9TA3HAX4L013108	22-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA14L013109	08-Jul-04

RC Attachment A cont'd.

1N9TA3HA84L013110	29-Jun-04
1N9TA3HAX4L013111	21-Jul-04
1N9TA3HA14L013112	25-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA34L013113	29-Jun-04
1N9TA3HA54L013114	25-Jun-04

1N9TA3HA63L013234	09-Sep-04	50240237-00	RC2401100-003	RD	B. Lacko
1N9TA3HA83L013235	28-Jan-04				See above
1N9TA3HAX3L013236	18-Feb-04				Attachment A cont'd.
1N9TA3HA13L013237	23-Feb-04				
1N9TA3HA33L013238	13-Feb-04				
1N9TA3HA24L013037	23-Feb-04				
1N9TA3HA44L013038	24-Feb-04				
1N9TA3HA64L013039	25-Feb-04				
1N9TA3HA24L013040	08-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA44L013041	25-Feb-04				
1N9TA3HA64L013042	05-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA84L013043	08-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HAX4L013044	08-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA14L013045	12-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA34L013046	12-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA54L013047	12-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA74L013048	26-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA94L013049	15-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA54L013050	15-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA74L013051	26-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA94L013052	06-Apr-04				
1N9TA3HA04L013053	06-Apr-04				
1N9TA3HA24L013054	15-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA44L013055	16-Apr-04				
1N9TA3HA64L013056	26-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA03L013057	19-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HAX4L013058	19-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA14L013059	22-Mar-04				
1N9TA3HA84L013060	13-Apr-04				
1N9TA3HAX4L013061	06-Apr-04				

1N9TA3HA14L013062	21-Jul-04
1N9TA3HA34L013063	16-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA54L013064	06-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA74L013065	16-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA94L013066	27-Apr-04
1N9TA3HA24L013068	21-Apr-04

1N9TA1HA04L013123	21-Jul-04	50446085-00	RQ2401100-001	RQ	Paul Flynn (Wrnty)
1N9TA1HA04L013137	25-Jul-04				Boston
1N9TA1HA04L013140	10-Aug-04				21 Water Street
1N9TA1HA04L013154	31-Aug-04				Cambridge
1N9TA1HA04L013168	17-Sep-04				MA
1N9TA1HA04L013171	11-Oct-04				02141
1N9TA1HA04L013185	05-Nov-04				1-617-222-1303
1N9TA1HA04L013199	04-Dec-04				
1N9TA1HA04L013204	15-Dec-04				
1N9TA1HA04L013218	26-Jan-05				Attachment A cont'd.
1N9TA1HA04L013221	04-Feb-05				
1N9TA1HA04L013235	22-Feb-05				
1N9TA1HA04L013249	18-Mar-05				
1N9TA1HA04L013252	18-Mar-05				
1N9TA1HA04L013297					
1N9TA1HA04L013302					
1N9TA1HA04L013316					
1N9TA1HA14L013115	09-Jul-04				
1N9TA1HA14L013128	25-Jul-04				
1N9TA1HA14L013129					
1N9TA1HA14L013132	25-Jul-04				
1N9TA1HA14L013146	31-Aug-04				
1N9TA1HA14L013163	27-Sep-04				
1N9TA1HA14L013177	15-Oct-04				
1N9TA1HA14L013180	01-Nov-04				
1N9TA1HA14L013194	22-Nov-04				
1N9TA1HA14L013213	16-Jan-05				
1N9TA1HA14L013227	09-Feb-05				

1N9TA1HA14L013230	14-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA14L013244	04-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA14L013258	25-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA14L013292	
1N9TA1HA14L013308	
1N9TA1HA14L013311	
1N9TA1HA24L013124	22-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA24L013138	10-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA24L013141	13-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA24L013155	17-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA24L013169	27-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA24L013172	11-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA24L013186	05-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA24L013205	07-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA24L013219	26-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA24L013222	04-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA24L013235	
1N9TA1HA24L013236	18-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA24L013253	18-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA24L013298	
1N9TA1HA24L013303	
1N9TA1HA34L013116	09-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA34L013133	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA34L013147	08-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA34L013150	31-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA34L013164	13-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA34L013178	22-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA34L013181	25-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA34L013195	22-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA34L013200	04-Dec-04
1N9TA1HA34L013214	21-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA34L013228	09-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA34L013231	14-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA34L013245	04-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA34L013259	25-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA34L013293	
1N9TA1HA34L013309	
1N9TA1HA34L013312	

RQ Attachment A cont'd.

1N9TA1HA44L013125	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA44L013139	10-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA44L013142	13-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA44L013156	08-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA44L013173	11-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA44L013187	22-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA44L013190	15-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA44L013206	07-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA44L013223	04-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA44L013237	25-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA44L013240	25-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA44L013254	18-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA44L013299	
1N9TA1HA44L013304	
1N9TA1HA54L013117	09-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA54L013120	21-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA54L013134	26-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA54L013148	31-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA54L013151	13-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA54L013165	27-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA54L013179	22-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA54L013182	01-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA54L013196	04-Dec-04
1N9TA1HA54L013201	04-Dec-04
1N9TA1HA54L013215	21-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA54L013229	14-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA54L013232	18-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA54L013246	11-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA54L013294	
1N9TA1HA54L013313	
1N9TA1HA64L013126	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA64L013143	25-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA64L013157	17-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA64L013160	13-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA64L013174	15-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA64L013188	15-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA64L013191	15-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA64L013207	07-Jan-05

RQ Attachment A cont'd.

1N9TA1HA64L013210	18-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA64L013224	04-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA64L013238	04-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA64L013241	25-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA64L013305	
1N9TA1HA74L013118	12-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA74L013121	21-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA74L013135	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA74L013148	08-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA74L013149	
1N9TA1HA74L013152	31-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA74L013166	17-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA74L013183	01-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA74L013197	04-Dec-04
1N9TA1HA74L013202	09-Dec-04
1N9TA1HA74L013216	01-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA74L013233	21-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA74L013247	11-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA74L013250	18-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA74L013295	
1N9TA1HA74L013300	
1N9TA1HA74L013314	
1N9TA1HA84L013127	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA84L013130	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA84L013144	25-Aug-04
1N9TA1HA84L013158	08-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA84L013161	27-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA84L013175	15-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA84L013189	15-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA84L013192	15-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA84L013208	14-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA84L013211	18-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA84L013225	09-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA84L013239	25-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA84L013242	04-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA84L013256	18-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA84L013306	
1N9TA1HA94013153	

RQ Attachment A cont'd.

1N9TA1HA94L013119	22-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA94L013122	22-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA94L013136	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HA94L013153	17-Sep-04
1N9TA1HA94L013167	15-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA94L013170	11-Oct-04
1N9TA1HA94L013184	05-Nov-04
1N9TA1HA94L013198	04-Dec-04
1N9TA1HA94L013203	15-Dec-04
1N9TA1HA94L013217	28-Jan-05
1N9TA1HA94L013220	01-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA94L013234	22-Feb-05
1N9TA1HA94L013248	11-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA94L013251	11-Mar-05
1N9TA1HA94L013296	
1N9TA1HA94L013301	
1N9TA1HA94L013315	
1N9TA1HAX4L013128	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HAX4L013131	25-Jul-04
1N9TA1HAX4L013145	25-Aug-04
1N9TA1HAX4L013159	13-Sep-04
1N9TA1HAX4L013162	13-Sep-04
1N9TA1HAX4L013176	15-Oct-04
1N9TA1HAX4L013193	15-Nov-04
1N9TA1HAX4L013209	14-Jan-05
1N9TA1HAX4L013212	26-Jan-05
1N9TA1HAX4L013226	09-Feb-05
1N9TA1HAX4L013242	
1N9TA1HAX4L013243	04-Mar-05
1N9TA1HAX4L013257	25-Mar-05
1N9TA1HAX4L013260	
1N9TA1HAX4L013307	
1N9TA1HAX4L013310	

RQ Attachment A cont'd.

## Attachment B



1010 Johnson Drive  
Buffalo Grove, IL  
60089-6918

Phone: 847.777.6400  
Fax: 847.520.2222  
www.wabtec.com

June 3, 2005

Mike Bryant  
Warranty Manager  
Neoplan USA Corporation  
700 Auwaerter Drive  
Lamar, Colorado 81052-2298

Dear Mr. Bryant:

Vapor Bus International has reached a preliminary conclusion that the two-piece curved connecting rods used in certain Vapor Door Operators (Base Plate Assemblies) manufactured between January 1, 1996 and November 30, 2004, may contain a safety-related defect. Specifically, when these connecting rods are used as an element of the door actuation linkage in conjunction with a Vapor medium pneumatic differential engine, the connecting rod may be subject to fatigue failure, resulting in bending or breaking of the connecting rod.

Vapor has notified the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of the U. S. Department of Transportation (NHTSA) of this matter (NHTSA Campaign Number: 05E-030). Vapor will assist Neoplan in making any required notification to NHTSA.

With your assistance, Vapor will notify all owners of affected Neoplan vehicles manufactured between January 1, 1996 and December 31, 2004. Vapor will conduct a phased campaign to remedy the defect. The remedy consists of replacing the existing two-piece connecting rod with a one-piece connecting rod. Vapor will either conduct the replacement itself or provide a fixed payment for the vehicle owner to perform the replacement.

We request your assistance in providing a list of potentially affected Neoplan vehicles that were manufactured between January 1, 1996 and December 31, 2004, and utilized equipment containing the affected parts (see attachment for specific Vapor Part Numbers that incorporated the affected items and the Shipping Dates for those parts). The list can be by order or contract and should include a generic description of the vehicle, the number of vehicles in the order, the VIN's, the name and address of the vehicle owner, and the name of a contact person at the owner. This information will be used to inform the owners of this recall and to assure that they receive material and instructions for applying the remedy.

Should you have questions concerning this matter please contact either the undersigned or Mark Loeser (714) 307-5199.

Very truly yours,

James R. Pearson  
Vice President, Marketing  
847-777-6450  
Attachment:

**Vapor Bus International**

**ATTACHMENT**

**Neoplan USA Corporation**

**VAPOR TWO-PIECE CONNECTING ROD – SAFETY-RELATED DEFECT**

To the best of our knowledge and belief, the following part numbers furnished by Vapor Bus International and its predecessors contained the affected two-piece connecting rods.

	<b>Base Plate Assembly</b>	<b>Total Quantity</b>	<b>Shipping Dates</b>
	50066256-00	81	02/12/01 – 10/23/02
	50066264-00	82	11/11/00 – 09/26/02
	50240148-00	2	10/20/04
	50240237-00	85	08/31/02 – 05/13/04
	50240288-00	85	08/31/02 – 05/13/04
	50240295-00	21	08/31/02 – 10/23/02
	50440108-01	2	10/20/04
	50446085-00	100	05/21/04 – 11/11/04
	<b>Total</b>	<b>458</b>	

**NOTE:**

Please identify which Base Plate Assemblies were used for specific buses.

06/03/05