

IC Corporation

751 South Harkrider, Conway, Ar 72302

OSV-130

SAFETY RECALL 05507

June 2005

Dear IC Corporation Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. IC Corporation has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain CE, FE, and RE School Bus models built between May 12, 2003 and March 2, 2005 with Child Restraint Anchorage Systems Option (Latch Attachments) Property Codes 0048SYH, SYJ, TAN, TGY, TGZ, TJV, TMU, TMV, TMW, TMX, TNB, TPY, TXW.

The vehicle identified on the enclosed card fits this description and our records show that you own this vehicle. Federal regulations require that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

The diameter of the latch attachment bars may be so large as to make it difficult to use with future car seat attachments. In addition, some of the latch attachments may be located too far forward of the seat back.

RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

Not attaching the child seat properly may result in **personal injury or death in the event of an accident**. Also, the placement of the brackets may result in personal injury to a passenger not seated in a child seat.

ACTION YOU SHOULD TAKE

1. **Our records show that you are the owner** of the vehicle identified on the enclosed card. **If you are not the owner**, please read paragraph number 6.
2. If you would like your IC dealer to make this repair for you at no cost, **please contact your local IC dealer**, with your green recall card in hand, to schedule an appointment to have your vehicle repaired.

RECEIVED
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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
1005-215

If you are repairing the vehicle yourself, please follow the instructions outlined in the "Repair Procedure" section below. Fill out and return the enclosed green card with box # 8 checked (Send Parts) and our Compliance Department will have the parts shipped directly to you at no charge. Please verify that your shipping address is correct. A Post Office Box (P.O. Box) number for shipping is not acceptable. We must have a street or road address. You may also obtain these parts by faxing a request to 1-501-505-2433 or emailing to Kathy.anders@ic-corp.com. The last eight characters of the VIN of each unit to be repaired must be included.

3. IC dealers will have parts and instructions to make the repair available to them by **06/30/2005**. The repair will be performed without charge to you and will take approximately 18 minutes per anchorage system for Repair Variation 1 or 48 minutes per seat with anchorage system for Repair Variation 2. IC Corporation has contacted the owners of buses involved in this recall to determine their preferred method of repair. Customers located in AZ, GA, IL and MD will have the seat frames replaced. All other buses will be repaired with belt systems. Have your dealer verify and correct your address, if necessary
4. If your local IC dealer performs the repair, they will submit a warranty claim; therefore, you **DO NOT** have to mail in the campaign card.
5. If the **vehicle will not be corrected or cannot be corrected**, please mark on the enclosed card under "CHECK ONE" the box which best describes why the vehicle will not be repaired, and return the postage-prepaid card to us.
6. **In the event you do not own the vehicle** described on the card, please complete the card, fill in the new customer name and address if known, write "Do Not Own" clearly on the card, and return it to us. This information will allow us to update our records so we can contact the new owner and you will not be contacted again regarding this recall.

RECALL CLAIMS

For Repairs Performed By Customer or Non-Authorized IC Dealers

To assist in processing the recall, it is important that you provide an invoice with the following information.

VIN #

Recall Campaign #05507 & Subject (Child Seat Latch System)

Facilities Repair Labor Rate

Labor Operation Number

All correspondence must be returned to IC Corporation, PO Box 6000, Conway, Arkansas, 72033, Attn: Compliance Department.

REIMBURSEMENT OF REPAIRS-COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE RELEASE OF THIS RECALL

If you paid to repair your vehicle for this defect prior to receiving this recall letter, you may be eligible for reimbursement of the repair costs if the costs were incurred between 03/23/04 and 06/30/05. Contact your local IC dealer, with your original repair documentation and proof of payment, and the service advisor will determine what if any of the repair costs will qualify for reimbursement. IC dealers determine what repair costs are eligible for reimbursement. However, if you choose not to work through an IC dealer, you may submit the enclosed "REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT" form, repair documentation, and proof of payment to:

International Truck and Engine Corporation
Warranty Claim Center Reimbursement Department
P.O. Box 888
Warrenville, IL 60555

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE

If you take your vehicle to your dealer on a mutually agreed upon service date, and the dealer does not remedy this condition without charge on that date or within five days, you can obtain assistance by following the procedure described in the Owner Assistance Guide section in your Owner's Manual or by calling toll free 1-800-448-7825.

You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20590, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hot-Line at 1-888-327-4236 if your IC dealer fails to repair or is unable to remedy this condition without charge or within a reasonable time.

We request your prompt attention to the correction of this defect and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

PARTS INFORMATION

The correct parts and number of parts, based on your VIN or VINs, will be shipped to you upon request if you are completing the repairs yourself. See *Actions You Should Take - step #2*. If your local IC Dealer is completing the repairs, they will order the required parts.

SERVICE PROCEDURE

There are two (2) repair methods for this recall. Both methods are described in this section. The **Repair Method** required is dependent on the VIN of the bus. Using the last 8 digits of each VIN, look for the VIN in Table 3 (near the end of this document) and determine the correct **Parts Code**. Look up the **Parts Code** in Table 4 (at end of document) to determine the correct parts, the quantity of each part, and the repair method required for each VIN. Customers located in AZ, GA, IL and MD will have the seat frames replaced. All other buses will be repaired with belt systems.



WARNING:

TO PREVENT SERIOUS EYE INJURY, ALWAYS WEAR SAFE EYE PROTECTION WHEN YOU PERFORM VEHICLE MAINTENANCE OR SERVICE.



WARNING:

TO AVOID PROPERTY DAMAGE, PERSONAL INJURY, OR DEATH WHEN SERVICING THE VEHICLE, PARK ON A FLAT LEVEL SURFACE, SET THE PARKING BRAKE, TURN THE ENGINE OFF AND CHOCK THE WHEELS.

Repair Method #1:

Remove latch attachments from seats and replace with a special belt system. This procedure does not require the removal of the seat assembly. Refer to Figure 1.

Remove existing latch system

1. Remove the bottom seat cushion for easier access to parts requiring changing.
 - For seats with the optional pivot clamp: Twist the clamp 90 degrees to allow pivoting the seat cushion up from the rear side.
 - For seats without the optional pivot clamp: Remove the seat clamps on the underside of the seat cushion.
 - If the seat has lap belts, remove them prior to cutting the brackets (in the next step) in order to prevent damage to the belt. Save the belts for possible future use. Keep the mounting hardware to use when installing the new belts.
2. Cut the brackets off just below the seat back cover. Refer to Figure 1 below.
 - The bracket makes a bend in this area and has a minimum amount of material to cut through. It can be cut off closer to the seat frame if desired.
 - There are two (2) brackets on 26" and 30" seats.
 - There are four (4) brackets on 39" seats.
3. Grind all cut edges smooth.
4. Paint.

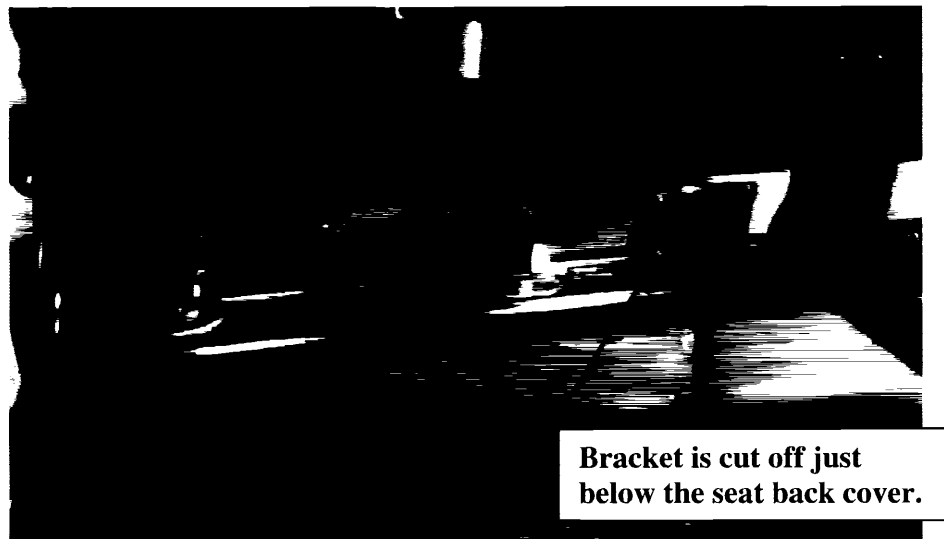


Figure 1. Latch anchor brackets cut-off and belts installed

Install new system

- 1. On seats without existing lap belts (Texas, North Carolina and Laidlaw only):**
 - a. After removal of the latch system, add one set of belts and hardware provided in **Kit # 8900150R91** (at each position that the latch system was removed) using the holes provided in the bar that are approximately eight inches apart.
 - b. You may need to place a large diameter flat washer between the belt mounting bracket and the plate in the seat to get a flat mounting.
 - c. Torque the fasteners to **21-27 LbF-Ft (28.5–36.6 Nm)**.
- 2. On seats with existing lap belts (Texas only):**
 - Buses originally built with lap belts will require one replacement belt set for each latch system removed.
 - The replacement belt sets must match the same color scheme of the belts being replaced.
 - On 39" seats the center belt system is not being replaced. If this set was removed to prevent damage during the removal of the latch brackets (see *Remove existing latch system*, step 1), it should be reinstalled now.
 - When replacing a maroon/red belt set (Texas only) use 421280008 belt set: install the short female end on the wall side.
 - When replacing a gold/brown belt set (Texas only) use 421280009 belt set: install the short female end on the aisle side.
 - a. Use the existing hardware (see *Remove existing latch system*, step 1) to mount the new belt sets.
 - b. Torque the fasteners to **21-27 LbF-ft (28.5–36.6 Nm)**.

Repair Method #2 (Arizona, Georgia, Illinois and Maryland only):

Remove the seat frame and replace it with the newly designed latch system seat frame. This procedure requires the removal of the seat assembly. The new seat frame and the old seat frame should be the same style (standard or high back). Specifically, the **seat length** and **back style** should be the **same**. Two people may be required when removing and reinstalling the seat frame.

1. Remove the seat assembly from the bus.
 - Take care to note the location of the mounting hardware (including reinforcements) when removing it so that the new seat can be installed in the same manner as the old seat.
2. Remove the seat cushion from the seat frame.
3. Remove the upholstery from the seat back.
 - This requires removal of the staples from the tack bar located on the underside of the seat back. **Do not tear the upholstery.**
 - Observe how the upholstery was stapled so that you will know how to secure the upholstery in the same manner on the new seat frame.
4. Remove the foam assembly from the seat back frame.
5. Install the foam just removed from the old seat back frame onto the new seat back frame.
 - Make sure that the thicker foam is on the backside of the seat back frame.
6. Install the upholstery onto the new seat back (the upholstery removed from the old seat in step 3).
 - Make sure that the upholstery is pulled tight into position.
 - Use 3/8 staples to secure the front side of the upholstery first; then secure the backside of the upholstery.
7. Install the seat cushion (removed from the old seat frame in step 2) onto the new seat frame.
8. Reinstall the new seat assembly in the same manner and position that it was prior to being removed in step 1.
 - To access the seat rail mounting hardware, the seat cushion may be moved temporarily toward the aisle.
 - Make sure that the reinforcements removed in step 1 are reinstalled in the proper position.
9. Torque the nuts of the seat mounting hardware to the floor to
 - **13-16 LbF-Ft (17.6-21.7 Nm)** (seats without track seating)
 - **5-5.5 LbF-Ft (4.7-7.5 Nm)** (seats with track seating)
10. If a pivot bracket is provided, make sure that it is turned 90 degrees from the seat frame bar to secure the seat cushion.

End of Service Procedure.

LABOR

<i>Labor Code</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Time (hour)</i>
A40-05507-01	Remove latch system and add belts - Method 1	0.3 per anchorage system
A40-05507-02	Remove seat frame and replace with new latch system seat frame design – Method 2	0.8 per seat

CAMPAIGN IDENTIFICATION LABEL

*Each vehicle corrected in accordance with this campaign **must be** marked with a S00109 Campaign Identification Label.*

Complete the label and attach on a clean Surface next to the vehicle identification number (VIN) plate.

DO NOT REMOVE
IC CORPORATION
Campaign No.
VIN
Eng.#
COMPLETED
Service Location Code #
DO NOT REMOVE

This label has been shipped with your letter.

IMPORTANT

In the event you no longer own the vehicle described, please fill in the requested information on the enclosed postage-prepaid card and return it to us. This information will allow us to notify the correct owner.

IC Corporation