

April 29, 2005



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OFFICE OF  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

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 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