



IC Corporation

751 South Harkrider, Conway, Ar 72302

OSV-337

SAFETY RECALL 05517

September 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 Specialty Manufacturing Co. 5-Series electric stop arms on 3800 bus chassis and on certain BE, CE, FE and RE School Bus models built between 01/07/2002 and 06/22/2005.

The stop arms involved in this recall are Specialty Manufacturing Co.'s 5-series electric stop arms, manufactured between January 7, 2002 and March 1, 2005, having serial numbers between 480380 and 627609 and operated in the following states:

Table 1 - Warm Weather States	
Alabama	Louisiana
Arizona	Mississippi
Arkansas	North Carolina
California	Oklahoma
Florida	South Carolina
Georgia	Texas
Hawaii	

If the bus will be operated in one of the **"COLD WEATHER STATES"** shown in Table 2 or has experienced the problem described in **"REASON FOR THIS RECALL"**, then you should follow the instructions listed under **"ACTIONS YOU SHOULD TAKE"**.

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 micro switch which controls the stop arm position can malfunction intermittently in operating conditions below 32 degrees F, possibly causing the stop arm to open or close to an improper position or not open at all. Vehicles that include a stop arm switch heater may not have the heater wire connected, which can result in the same failure mode.

States where these temperatures and conditions can occur in the winter include:

Table 2 - Cold Weather States				
Alaska	Kansas	Montana	Ohio	Virginia

Colorado	Kentucky	New Hampshire	Oregon	Washington
Connecticut	Maine	Nebraska	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Delaware	Maryland	Nevada	Rhode Island	Wisconsin
Idaho	Massachusetts	New Jersey	South Dakota	Wyoming
Illinois	Michigan	New Mexico	Tennessee	
Indiana	Minnesota	New York	Utah	Dist of Columbia
Iowa	Missouri	North Dakota	Vermont	

If your school bus(s) are to be driven in any of the "Cold Weather States" above, you should obtain the free remedy prior to the trip.

RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

This defect could increase the likelihood of vehicles passing a stopped school bus, which could endanger students while they are entering and exiting the bus.

ACTIONS 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 7.
2. You may inspect the stop arm to determine if it is included in this recall.

The stop arm serial number is readily visible on the stop arm box once you move and hold the stop sign in an open position away from the stop arm mechanical box.



NOTE: Holding the stop arm in an open position may cause a ratcheting noise, but will not harm the stop arm. Older stop arms will continue to make a noise until the stop arm is released. Newer stop arms will quit making a noise after a few seconds. If the stop arm has strobe lights, they may also flash.

- a. Your bus may have a front stop arm, a rear stop arm, or both front and rear stops arms. Inspect all stop arms on your bus for the manufacturer and part number. Confirm that the stop arm is manufactured by Specialty Manufacturing Co. and is a 5-series stop arm (Specialty part number will start with a 5).
- b. Determine if the Specialty Manufacturing Co. 5-Series front or rear stop arm has a serial number in the range between **480380 and 627609**. If the serial number of the stop arm falls within this range, you will need to replace the micro switch assembly **only** if you operate the bus in a cold weather state listed in Table 2 or you have experienced the same problem described in the **REASON FOR THIS RECALL** section above.
- c. If inspection shows that your stop arm does not meet the criteria described above, PLEASE mark the appropriate box on the green recall card and mail it to IC Corporation. No postage is required.

3. If you determine this repair is necessary and prefer to repair the vehicle yourself, please order a repair kit from Specialty Manufacturing Co. This repair kit will be shipped directly from Specialty to you at no charge. To receive the kit, record the last eight characters of the VIN to be repaired and the stop arm serial number(s) for each VIN included, then contact Specialty Manufacturing Co. by one of the following methods:

Call Toll free: 1-800-951-7876 ext. customer service

Go online to: http://www.specmfg.com/products_bus_5seriesform.html

Once you have received and installed the new part, you will need to file a claim for reimbursement directly with Specialty Manufacturing as described in the **RECALL CLAIMS** section below. Be sure to include the VIN and the serial number(s) as well as any other information required by Specialty Manufacturing Co.

4. You may also schedule an appointment for your IC dealer to make the repair for you at no cost. If an IC dealer will be making the repair, please contact the dealer in advance for a repair appointment. You will need the VIN and stop arm serial numbers so that the need for the repair can be verified, and the dealer can obtain replacement kits from Specialty Manufacturing Co. The time required to perform the work is dependent upon the number of stop arms per bus (one or two) and will take less than ½ hour. Please have your dealer verify and correct your address, if necessary.
5. If your local IC dealer performs the repair, they will submit a warranty claim for you. No further action on your part is required.
6. If the **vehicle cannot be corrected**, please mark on the enclosed green card under "CHECK ONE" the box, which best describes why the vehicle can not be repaired, and return the postage-prepaid card to us.
7. **In the event you do not own the vehicle** described on the card, please complete the green card, fill in the new customer name and address if known, 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

Inside the repair kit that you receive from Specialty Manufacturing, there is a postage paid service registration card. Reimbursement will be made directly by Specialty Manufacturing once this card has been filled out and mailed back to them. It is important that you provide the following information.

VIN Number/Numbers

Stop Arm Serial Number/Numbers by VIN

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 they were incurred between July 14, 2004 and September 9, 2005. Contact your local IC Dealer, with your original repair documentation and proof of payment, and the local service advisor will determine what If any of the repair costs will qualify 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 (please allow for shipment of parts), 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.

If your IC dealer fails to repair or is unable to remedy this condition without charge or within a reasonable time, 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 Vehicle Safety Hot-Line at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY:1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

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

PARTS INFORMATION

If you prefer to repair the vehicle yourself, replacement kit will be shipped to you by Specialty Manufacturing upon request. See the "**ACTIONS YOU SHOULD TAKE**" section - *step #3*.

REPAIR PROCEDURE



WARNING:

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



WARNING:

TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK AND POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO VEHICLE ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS, ALWAYS DISCONNECT THE BATTERY PRIOR TO PERFORMING VEHICLE MAINTENANCE OR SERVICE.



WARNING:

TO PREVENT UNEXPECTED MOVEMENT OF THE VEHICLE AND POSSIBLE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH, BLOCK THE WHEELS TO PREVENT THE VEHICLE FROM MOVING IN BOTH DIRECTIONS.

1. Refer to repair Instructions included in the kit.
2. For problems installing the micro switch assembly, contact Specialty Manufacturing Co. at 1-800-957-7867 ext. Customer Service.

End of Repair Procedure

LABOR

Reimbursement for reasonable installation charges will be made by Specialty Manufacturing Co. See instructions in **RECALL CLAIMS** section above.

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. There is also a decal included in the replacement kit provided by Specialty Manufacturing. Please place this decal on the stop arm box also.

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