

Improvement

OSV-490

Dear Mid Bus Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Based on information submitted to by Specialty Manufacturing, Mid Bus, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2002 through 2005 Model Year Guide DW, Guide SW, Guide XL, and SC school buses manufactured between January 7, 2002 and April 30, 2005, equipped with "5" series stop arms manufactured by Specialty Manufacturing Company of Pineville, North Carolina. The stop arm may not function when subjected to very cold operating conditions. According to our records you own buses covered by this recall.

Reason for Recall

In certain areas of the country during extremely cold weather under certain conditions, the micro switches used internally to position the sign in the open and closed positions may temporarily malfunction, causing the stop arm to open or close to an improper position, or to not open at all. Also, it has been determined that the heater section of the switch pack may not be connected in the proper manner.

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

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

If your Specialty Manufacturing equipped school bus is not in service in one of these states you may still obtain the free remedy upon request. If your school bus is to be driven in cold weather you should obtain the free remedy prior to the trip.

What Will Be Done. Specialty Manufacturing has determined that stop arms with serial numbers between 480380 and 627609 contain the defect that this recall intends to remedy. The stop arm will have it's switch pack replaced with components that will work down to -20F. The details of the service campaign are attached under Specialty's letterhead.

What you should do: Please check the serial number's of your buses stop arms. If they fall in the target range, follow the directions supplied by Specialty Manufacturing. If your stop arms aren't in the range of serial numbers, please mark the attached post card with your VIN or VIN's and check the box for no action necessary. If you live in the states listed as not requiring service, you can mark the card with VIN's and check no service necessary. If you live in the states listed as cold environment, you should contact Specialty Manufacturing to receive service parts and instructions. Reimbursement for reasonable installation charges will take place after the self addressed stamp paid service registration has been filled out and returned to Specialty Manufacturing. Parts that are removed should be discarded. If you have had the stop arm(s) replaced prior to this notification due to this defect, you may be eligible for reimbursement. Please contact Specialty Manufacturing. After you've completed the service work outlined by Specialty Manufacturing, mark the enclosed post card with VIN's and mark recall complete. In all cases the card is self addressed to Mid Bus, Inc., 505 East Jefferson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817 and should be sent back to Mid Bus, Inc. The card will be forwarded to Specialty Mfg for reimbursement.

If you need to contact Specialty Manufacturing, the service number is 800-951-7867.

If you have trouble completing this recall without charge, you may contact Mid Bus customer service at 877-358-6055. By Federal law, we are required to let you know that you can contact the Administration, NHTSA at 400 7th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590 or call NHTSA's Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153): or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>. Federal law requires leasee to forward this notice to leasor within 10 days.

Mid Bus is counting on its vendors to provide you service for installed components. Please cooperate with Specialty Manufacturing in completing this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

Paul Kessler
President
Mid Bus, Inc.