



January 31, 2006

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 7th Street, S.W. Suite 5319  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations - Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Collins Bus Corporation is submitting information relating to a safety recall we are conducting. Specific information is as follows:

**573.6(b)(1)**

This is the first quarterly report regarding Recall Number 05V-343.

**573.6(b)(2)**

The initial notification began and completed October, 12, 2005 via USPS.

**573.6(b)(3)**

This recall involves one thousand three hundred forty five (1,345) Collins "Bantam", "Super Bantam", or "Grand Bantam" model school buses. The vehicles in question are constructed using Specialty Manufacturing 5-series stop arms manufactured between January 7, 2002 and March 1, 2005, (stop arm serial numbers 480380–627609). Specialty Manufacturing Co. 10200 Pineville Road Pineville, NC 28134 (704)-889-7518. Specialty Manufacturing Co. has received reports that in extremely cold weather and under certain conditions, the micro switches used internally to position the sign in the open and closed positions may malfunction, causing the sign to open or close to an improper position, or to not open at all. Also, it has been determined that the heater section may not be connected in the proper manner. To date, no accidents or injuries have occurred as a result of this phenomenon. In nearly 100% of the occurrences this phenomenon is intermittent, and ceases to exist once the vehicle is no longer exposed to the extremely cold weather. Collins Bus Corporation has had no reports of this defect on any of its vehicles.

**573.6(b)(4)**

To date, we have received confirmation that ninety two (92) buses have been inspected and repaired. Also seventy five (75) buses has been inspected and determined to not need repair. One thousand one hundred seventy eight (1,178) buses have not yet been inspected.

**573.6(b)(5)**

To date, we have determined none of the buses to be unreachable for inspection.

Should you need further information, contact me at 620-662-9000.

Sincerely,  
**COLLINS BUS CORPORATION**

Steve Gladow  
Engineering Manager