



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

December 29, 2006

JOE LABONTE
COMPLIANCE AND SAFETY OFFICER
DAIMLERCHRYSLER COMMERCIAL BUSES
NORTH AMERICA
350 HAZELHURST ROAD
MISSISSAUGA ONTARIO CANADA L5J 4T8

NVS-215paw
06V-492

Subject: BRAKE AIR DRYER/GRAHAM WHITE

Dear MR. LABONTE:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:
ORION/VII/2004-2005

NHTSA Campaign Number: 06V-492

Mfg's Report Date: December 21, 2006

Components: SERVICE BRAKES, AIR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 250

Summary:

ON CERTAIN BUSES EQUIPPED WITH A GRAHAM WHITE BRAKE AIR DRYER MODEL QBA15, THE BRAKE AIR DRYER TIMER DOES NOT FUNCTION PROPERLY. THE AIR ENTERING INTO THE BRAKE SYSTEM MAY NOT HAVE THE MOISTURE REMOVED. IF NOT PROPERLY DRAINED, SMALL ICE CRYSTALS MAY FORM IN THE BRAKE SYSTEM PREVENTING THE SYSTEM TO OPERATE THE BRAKES PROPERLY.

Consequence:

THE BUS MAY NOT PERFORM AS EXPECTED WHEN STOPPING, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

DAIMLERCHRYSLER IS WORKING WITH GRAHAM WHITE TO DEVELOP A REMEDY. OWNERS ARE BEING ASKED TO INSPECT THE WET BRAKE AIR TANK FOR MOISTURE BY USING A MANUAL DRAIN. ONLY TWO CUSTOMERS ARE INVOLVED AND HAVE BEEN CONTACTED.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

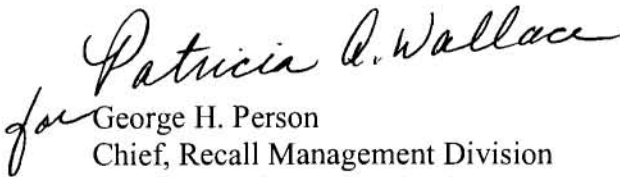
You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owners have been notified. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before January 30, 2007.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@dot.gov or delia.lopez@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,


for George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement