



Timothy J. Nalepka  
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December 5, 2006

**BY EMAIL**

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20590  
Attention: Ms. Patricia Wallace

06V-481  
(14 pages)

**Re: PART 573 NOTICE RE BOOST CONNECTOR**

Dear Ms. Wallace:

I have enclosed Motor Coach Industries, Inc.'s ("MCI") Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report and proposed customer notification letter in connection with the referenced matter.

Please confirm receipt of these documents and advise if NHTSA has any comments or recommendations prior to MCI sending the customer notification. If not, please provide NHTSA's reference number at your earliest convenience so that we may send the notifications.

Thanks for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,  
MOTOR COACH INDUSTRIES, INC.

By: Timothy J. Nalepka  
Senior Vice President &  
General Counsel

Enclosures

c: Paul Murphy (w/ encls.)

RECEIVED

2006 DEC -19 A 10:30

OFFICE OF DEFECTS  
INVESTIGATION

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**

On October 25, 2006, Motor Coach Industries, Inc. decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: December 5, 2006

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable):

MCI Service Bulletin 274 (attached)

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Motor Coach Industries, Inc.  
1700 E. Golf Road  
Suite 300  
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

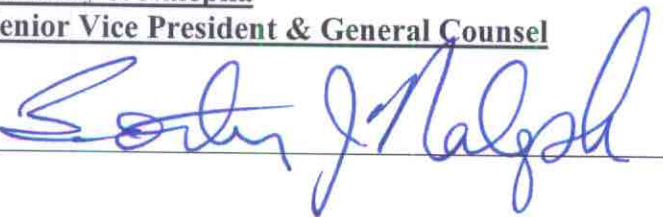
Paul Murphy  
Director, Regulatory Compliance

Telephone Number: (204) 287-4982 Fax No.: (204) 478-2814

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Timothy J. Nalepka  
Senior Vice President & General Counsel

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



## I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, *for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:*

Make(s): MCI

Model Years and Models Involved:

Certain 1997-2006 102D3, 102DL3, 102DL3SS, D4000, and D4500 model coaches (see attached draft MCI Service Bulletin 274, which lists all affected units).

Production Dates:            Begin date: 08/26/97            End date: 06/07/06

VIN Range:                    Beginning: 49869                    End: 57416

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

100 % of the coach models identified in attached draft MCI Service Bulletin 274.

## II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

### Models and Model Years Potentially Involved

	<u>D Series</u>		
1997	81	<u>2001</u>	116
1998	189	<u>2002</u>	162
1999	157	<u>2003</u>	<u>75</u>
2000	175	<u>2004</u>	<u>113</u>

2005

318

2006

231

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 1617

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

100 % of the coach models identified in attached draft MCI Service Bulletin 274.

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

The beginning and ending units of the recalled models were determined based on MCI's records of its coaches that were manufactured with the boost connector design configuration at issue.

### III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

The MCI D series coaches identified in the attached MCI Service Bulletin 274 were manufactured by MCI with a boost connector to aid in starting coaches that had low battery power. MCI has become aware that the boost connector's plastic housing may crack, which can allow the positive and negative leads to come in contact. In rare conditions this may cause an overheat with arcing, and could result in a thermal event.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

The boost connector's plastic housing may become cracked due to usage.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

If the boost connector's plastic housing cracks, the positive and negative leads may come in contact. In rare conditions this may cause an overheat with arcing, and could result in a thermal event.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

The boost connector is found to be cracked, loose, or otherwise damaged when use is attempted.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Tyco: Cdn Head Office  
20 Esna Park Drive  
Markham, ON  
L3R 1E1

President: Juergen Gromer @ 717-564-0100

Tyco: US Head Office  
2901 Fullingmill Road  
Middletown, PA  
17057

Supplier:  
Vansco Electronics  
1305 Clarence Ave.  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3T 1T4

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Tyco: Cdn Head Office  
Controller: Kevin Irons @ 905-475-6222

Vansco Electronics  
CEO: Niels Erik Hansen @ 204-452-6776

Tyco: US Head Office President: Juergen Gromer @ 717-564-0100

#### IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

*If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.*

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

A detailed chronological summary is being prepared and will be submitted to the NHTSA. In order to expedite this campaign, MCI respectfully requests the NHTSA to issue a recall number to allow MCI to move forward on this campaign.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

N/A

#### V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

MCI is instructing its customers to remove the boost connector from affected vehicles and discard it. Customers are being offered a new design boost connector, commonly used in the transit industry, as an alternative, at no cost.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

If customers with affected vehicles choose to install the new boost connector, it is a design that has been utilized in the transit industry for many years. It is more robust than the current design boost connector being replaced.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

Effective on all applicable D model coaches beginning with unit # 57450 (i.e., those coaches for which the customer requests a boost connector as an option or a special), MCI replaced the subject boost connector with a style commonly used in the transit industry.

#### VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

9. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Within ten days of MCI's receipt of NHTSA's recall number and approval of MCI's customer notification letter, MCI will notify by mail all affected customers. Implementation of the campaign repairs specified in MCI's bulletins can begin immediately. At the present time MCI does not foresee any delays in having the parts available for prompt completion of the campaign repairs.

#### VII. Furnish Recall Communications

10. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

Please see attached proposed customer notification letter and draft MCI Service Bulletin 274.

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.



# Service Bulletin No. 274

<b>MODEL</b> D Series Coaches	<b>TYPE</b> Field Change Program	<b>SECTION/GROUP</b> 7-Electrical	<b>DATE</b>
<b>SUBJECT</b> BOOST CONNECTOR			
<b>CONDITIONS</b>			

Ref. NHTSA Recall No.: 06V-3XX

Ref. Transport Canada Recall No.: 06-2XX

**DRAFT**

**Description:**

Motor Coach Industries, Inc. ("MCI") has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety may exist in certain MCI D series coaches that contain a boost connector. MCI has become aware that the boost connector's plastic housing may crack, which can allow the positive and negative leads to come in contact. In rare conditions, this may cause an overheat with arcing, and could result in a thermal event.

MCI is instituting a field change program to replace the boost connectors in all of the coaches listed below. This bulletin describes the procedures for properly disconnecting and replacing the boost connector.

The MCI D Series coaches that may be affected by this defect are the following: 49869, 50278, 50282, 50288, 50291, 50298, 50299, 50321-351, 50387-410, 50413-422, 50423, 50424, 50426-428, 50526-529, 51564, 51591, 51597, 51602, 51608, 51662-667, 51726-729, 51732, 51733, 51735, 51736, 51739-742, 51745-748, 51751-754, 51757-760, 51763-766, 51769-772, 51775-778, 51781-784, 51787-789, 53199, 53201, 53228-244, 53250, 53251, 53255-258, 53260, 53261, 51255, 51262, 51271, 51272, 51276, 51277, 51281, 51282, 51285, 51286, 51349-351, 51353-356, 51358-361, 51363-366, 51368-371, 51373-376, 51378-380, 51382-385, 51387-389, 51391-394, 51396-399, 51401-408, 51410-51412, 51414-426, 51428-431, 51433-435, 51437-440, 51442-452, 51454-462, 51464-466, 51470-471, 51473-475, 51477-480, 51482-485, 51487-489, 51491-494, 51496-498, 51500-503, 51505-508, 51510-512, 51514-517, 51519-521, 51523-526, 51528-531, 51533-535, 51537-51539, 51541-544, 51546-549, 51551-554, 51556-560, 52435, 52438-450, 52546, 52548, 52584, 52586, 52587, 52589, 52590, 52592, 52593, 52595, 52596, 52598, 52599, 52601, 52602, 52604, 52605, 52607, 52608, 52610, 52611, 52613, 52614, 52616, 52617, 52619, 52620, 52622, 52623, 52625, 52626, 52628, 52629, 52631, 52632-634, 52636, 52637, 52639, 52640, 52642, 52643, 52645, 52646, 52648, 52649, 52651, 52652, 52654, 52655, 52657, 52658, 52660, 52661, 52663, 52664, 52665, 52667, 52668, 52670, 52671, 52673, 52674, 52676, 52677, 52679, 52680, 52687, 52688, 52690, 52691, 52693, 52694, 52696, 52697, 52699, 52700, 52702, 52703, 52705, 52706, 52708, 52709, 52711, 52712, 52714, 52715, 52717, 52718, 52720, 52721, 52723, 52724, 52726, 52727, 52729, 52730, 52732, 52733, 53087, 53089, 53091, 53093, 53095, 53097, 53099, 53101, 53103, 53105, 53107, 53109, 53111, 53113, 53115, 53117, 53119, 53121, 53123, 53125, 53127, 53129, 53131, 53133, 53135, 53137, 53139, 53404, 53408, 53411, 53414, 53417, 53419, 53424, 53430, 53442, 53448, 53454, 53460, 53595, 53597, 543598, 53599, 53222, 53247, 53253, 53440, 53441, 53443-447, 53449-453, 53457-459, 53461-464, 53466-470, 53472-476, 53478-53482, 53484-488, 53490-494, 53496-500, 53502-504, 53520-538, 53540-544, 53546-550, 53552-556, 53558-562, 53564-568, 53570-53573, 53838-878, 53964-977, 54116-145, 54210-54214, 54391-396, 54597-616, 54819-842, 55113, 55156-161, 55163-198, 55200-202, 55204-207, 55280-329, 55551-561, 55758, 55760-762, 55961, 55964-968, 56077-103, 56263, 56268-297, 56299-302, 56413-450, 56452, 56455, 56456-479, 56480-483, 56497-505, 56591-661, 56663-707, 56376-56378, 55640-643, 55645-55679, 55944-55950, 56165, 56166, 56303-311, 56374, 56375, 56506-521, 56530-537, 56583, 56710-713, 56818-892, 56906-925, 56944-993, 57037, 57038, 57055, 57061-063, 57067-069, 57073-145, 57172-191, 57219-225, 57244-252, 57256-324, 57410-416, 56723-742, 56795, 56994-996, 56998-57000, 57002-017, 57020, 57022, 57072, 57192, 57227-242, 57331, 57380-399 and 57410-57416.

**Parts**

Qty.	New P/N	Description
1	07-08-2196	Kit - Booster Post <i>Kit Contents are:</i>
1	07-08-2024	Bracket, Mounting
1	07-08-2149	Protective Cap, Booster Posts, Black
1	07-08-2150	Decal, Booster Posts
1	07-12-2153	Connector Assy.
4	19-1-1074	Capscrew, 5/18-18 x 1.25
2	19-1-529	Screw, Tapping
4	19-2-198	Washer, Lock, Spring, 5/16, SST
4	19-2-62	Washer, Plain, Flat, 5/16, SST
4	19-3-314	Nut, Hex, 5/16-18 UNC, SST



## NOTE

A vehicle to vehicle booster post adapter assembly is not covered in this field change program. Customers should refer to MCI Service Bulletin 2949 for information relating to the booster post adapter assembly.

### Service Procedure:

#### General notes

Read this entire procedure before beginning work.

#### Use Safe Shop Practices At All Times.

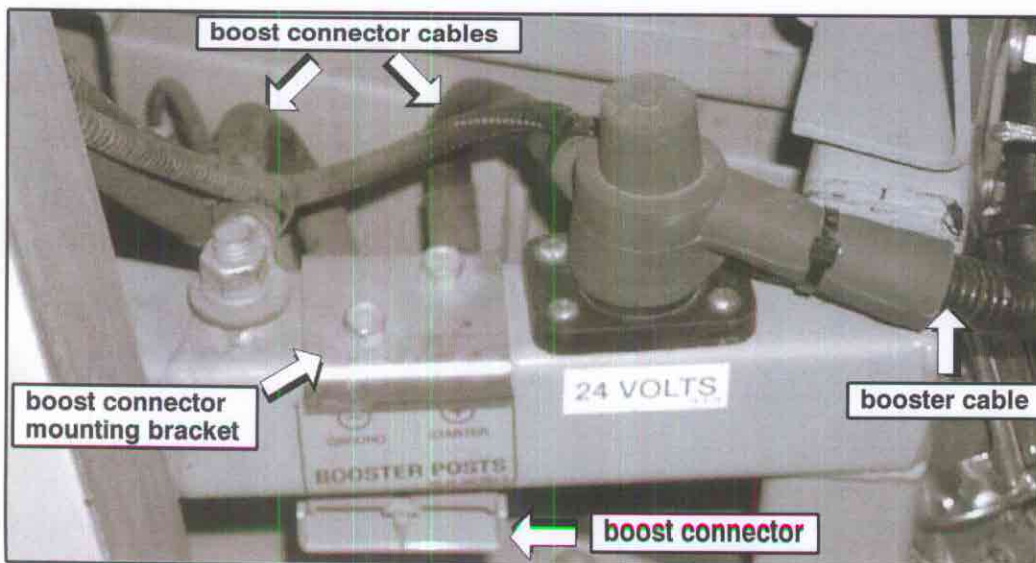
1. Turn the main battery disconnect switch to the OFF position. Chock both sides of the tires.



## WARNING

Ensure that the main disconnect is OFF prior to working on any coach electrical component.

2. Open the rear, side service compartment door and locate the boost connector ( Figure 1 ).
3. Clearly identify the existing coach harnesses that are routed to the 24 Volt and Ground booster posts.
4. Remove and retain the nuts, washers, boost connector cables and booster cable from the booster posts.



**Figure 1. Existing boost connector.**

5. Remove the two capscrews that secure the mounting bracket to the frame. Discard the mounting bracket and the existing boost connector.

6. Position the mounting bracket ( p/n 07-08-2024 ) on the frame to ensure that the holes align with existing holes in the frame. If necessary, center the mounting bracket and drill two holes with a 3/16 inch drill bit using the bracket as a template.
7. Secure the connector assy ( p/n 07-12-2153 ) to the mounting bracket ( p/n 07-08-2024 ) using the hardware provided in the Parts list ( p/n 19-1-1074, 19-2-198, 19-2-62 and 19-3-314 ) ( Figures 2 and 3 ).

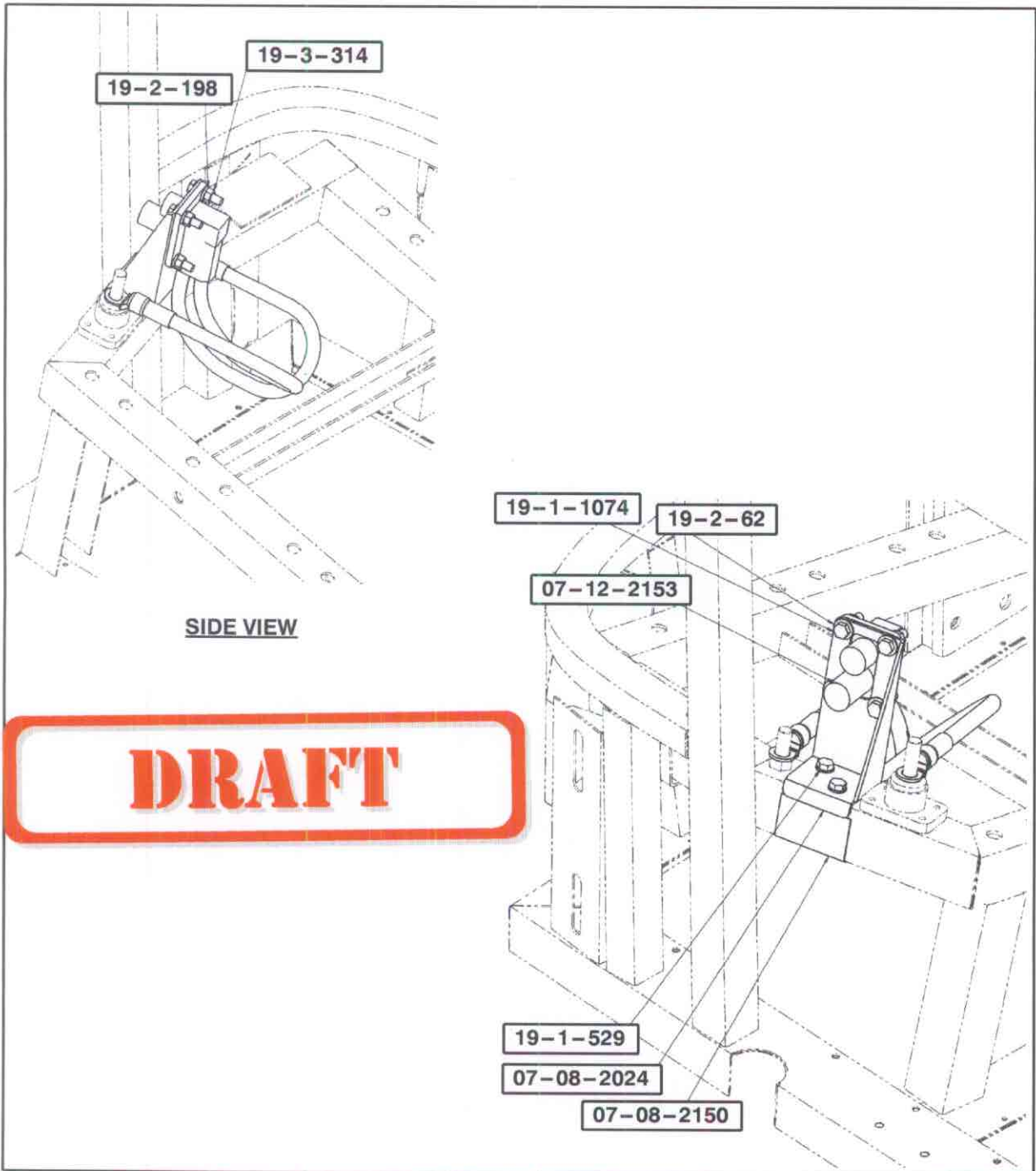


Figure 2.

8. Install the booster connector assembly ( mounting bracket ) to the frame and secure the protective cap ( p/n 07-08-2149 ) using two screws ( p/n 19-1-529 ) ( Figures 3 and 4 ).

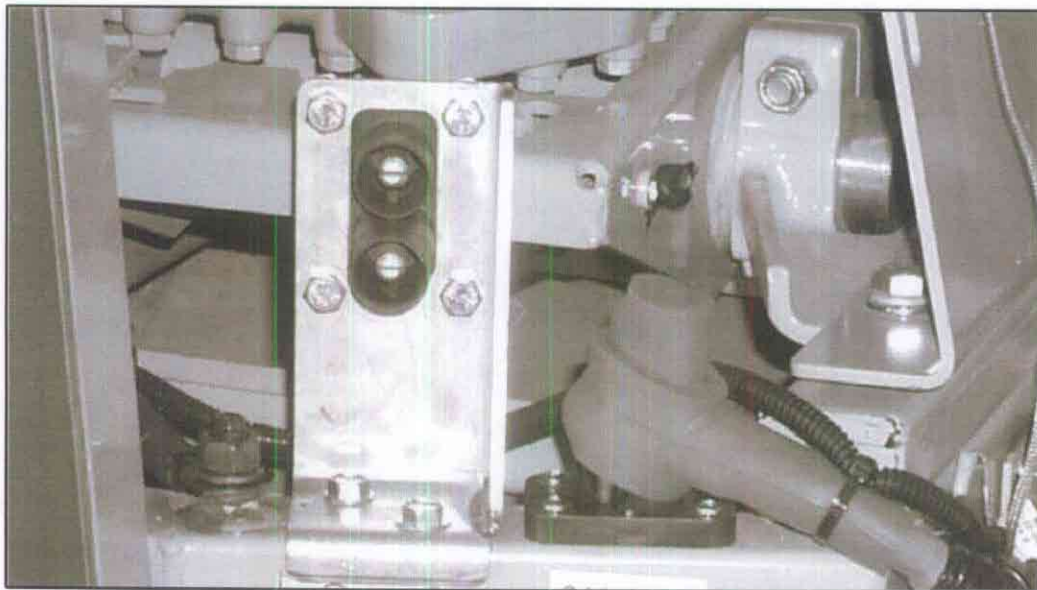


Figure 3.



Figure 4.

9. Using a clean cloth and an isopropyl alcohol and water mixture, clean the decal application area shown in Figure 4. Apply the booster posts decal ( p/n 07-08-2150 ).



## NOTE

**The negative (-) and positive (+) leads are clearly identified by black for Negative and red for Positive.**

10. Align the boost connector cables with the correct polarity booster post ( Figure 1 ). Position the existing coach harnesses and the boost connector cables on the correct polarity booster post, orientated so that the largest diameter ring terminal is on the bottom.
11. Using the two nuts removed in Step 4. , secure the cables to the booster posts.
12. Position the cap on the 24 volt post. Close the rear, side service compartment door.

Procedure complete.

Mail or fax the completed warranty claim form to MCI's warranty department, or photocopy and mail it to:

MCI Fleet Support  
Attn: Warranty Department  
7001 Universal Coach Drive  
Louisville, KY 40258  
Fax Number 1-800-360-8886

to receive credit for the hours used to complete this task. Contact the MCI Fleet Support Technical Center at 1-800-241-2947 for any further information.

***Field Change Program Conditions:***

The parts required for this change will be supplied without charge.

A labor allowance of **0.3 hours** will be granted, for the procedure of installing the specified part(s) in this bulletin on D model coaches.

This labor allowance will be credited to your MCI Fleet Support Parts Account on receipt of a "Warranty Claim Form" as detailed in your Owner Warranty manual.

Motor Coach apologizes for any inconvenience resulting from this campaign, but urges you to implement this change as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

*Motor Coach Industries*  
U.S. and Canadian Service Departments.

«Customer»  
«attention»  
«address»  
«c», «s» «zip»

**SUBJECT: BOOST CONNECTOR**

December, 2006

Ref:           **NHTSA #**  
                  **TRANSPORT CANADA #**  
                  **MCI Service Bulletin 274**

Attention Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and with the Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Act - Notice of Safety Defects.

Motor Coach Industries, Inc. ("MCI") has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety may exist on certain MCI 102D3, 102DL3, 102DL3SS, D4000 and D4500 model coaches.

MCI has determined that the boost connector housing can fail over time, exposing the positive and negative terminals. This could result in the grounding of an unprotected circuit and potentially lead to a thermal event if not corrected. MCI is instituting a field change program to replace the TYCO AMP boost connector and the purpose of this letter is to ask your co-operation with a new design that MCI will supply at no cost to you. MCI Service Bulletin 274 describes the procedures for properly replacing the boost connector in the D series coaches.

MCI records indicate that you are the owner or operator of the following unit(s) included in this recall.

«unit\_number»

MCI will furnish the parts required for the boost connector replacement at no charge to you. MCI estimates that it will take approximately .3 hour on the D series coaches, as described in the enclosed a copy of Service Bulletin 274. Upon completion of the retrofit to the unit(s) listed above and MCI's receipt of the replaced connector and a completed Warranty Claim Form, MCI will credit the appropriate labor allowance amount to your MCI parts account. Submittal of MCI Warranty Claim Forms may be completed on MCI's website at <http://fleetsupportiw.mcicoach.com/iwarranty/signon> (click on Customer Care System), or a photocopy of the Warranty Claim Form found in the Warranty Manual can be mailed / faxed to the MCI Warranty Department. Please refer to your OWNER LIMITED WARRANTY MANUAL for more detailed information. Customers may submit only one (1) MCI Warranty Claim Form per coach for this Field Change Program.

If you have any questions about this recall campaign, you may contact the MCI Customer Service Line at 1-800-241-2947.

After contacting MCI Customer Service, if you are still unable to have the safety defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint:

For the U.S.:

The Administrator,  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration,  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.,  
Washington, D.C. 20590,  
or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236; (TTY: 1-800-424-9153);  
or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

For Canada:

Road Safety and Motor Vehicle  
Regulation Directorate  
Transport Canada  
Tower C, Place de Ville  
330 Sparks Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0N5  
or call the Transport Canada's Information Centre at 1-800-333-0371.

If you had the retrofit work done before you received this letter, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement from MCI for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall. For more information, contact the MCI Customer Service Line at 1-800-241-2947.

**If you are the lessor of this vehicle, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to the lessee within ten days of your receipt of this notice.**

If you have sold or otherwise transferred the vehicle(s) identified above, please contact MCI Customer Service Line at 1-800-241-2947 with all of the information you have regarding the current owner/operator of the vehicle(s), so that we can ensure that the vehicles are corrected.

Motor Coach Industries apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause, but urges you to implement the Field Change Program as soon as possible.

Sincerely,  
*Motor Coach Industries*  
Warranty Department  
Enclosure: MCI Service Bulletin 274