



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

JAN - 9 2007

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

MR. TIMOTHY BLUBAUGH
DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL AFFAIRS
FREIGHTLINER, LLC
4747 NORTH CHANNEL AVENUE
PORTLAND, OR 97217-7699

NVS-215kjs
07V-002

Subject: FRONT BUMPER MOUNTED SWING-OUT CROSS ARM

Dear MR. BLUBAUGH:

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:
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/C2/2006-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-002

Mfg's Report Date: December 18, 2006

Components:
OTHER:SCHOOL BUS STOP ARM ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,441

Summary:
CERTAIN THOMAS BUILT 2006 AND 2007 C2 SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN DECEMBER 21, 2005, AND SEPTEMBER 4, 2006. THE INLET AIR FITTING WELDED TO THE BASE PLATE WAS MANUFACTURED INCONSISTENTLY, POSSIBLY ALLOWING THE FITTING TO SEPARATE. SEPARATION OF THE INLET FITTING WILL PREVENT THE ACTUATING AIR FROM POWERING THE CROSSING ARM AND MAY NOT DEPLOY.

Consequence:

A NON-DEPLOYING CROSSING ARM ALLOWS SOME STUDENT PASSENGERS TO NOT BE VISIBLE TO THE DRIVER AS THEY CROSS IN FRONT OF THE BUS DURING PICK-UP OR DISCHARGE, PRESENTING A RISK TO THEM.

Remedy:

THOMAS BUILT WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON FEBRUARY 28, 2007. OWNERS MAY CALL THOMAS BUILT AT 336-889-4871 OR FREIGHTLINER AT 800-547-0712.

Notes:

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-488. CUSTOMERS MAY 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).

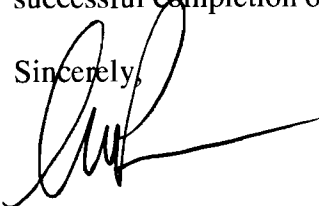
Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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 required 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, the recall is expected to begin on February 28, 2007. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due in this office on or before the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227 or by email at Kelly.schuler@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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