



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

MAR 28 2007

MR. NASSER ZAMANI
MANAGER GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL AFFAIRS
FREIGHTLINER LLC
4747 NORTH CHANNEL AVENUE
PORTLAND, OR 97208-3849

NVS-215kjs
07V-137

Subject: BRAKE PUSH ROD

Dear MR. ZAMANI:

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/HDX/2000-2003
THOMAS/MVP ER/2000-2003

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-137

Mfg's Report Date: March 16, 2007

Components:
SERVICE BRAKES, AIR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3,000

Summary:
CERTAIN MY 2000 THROUGH 2003 THOMAS BUILT HDX AND MVP-ER SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN APRIL 23, 2000, AND NOVEMBER 14, 2003. THE SERVICE AIR BRAKE PEDAL, FOR BOTH NON-ADJUSTABLE AND ADJUSTABLE BRAKE PEDALS, MAY CONTACT THE FRONT STRUCTURE ON THE BUS, LIMITING THE MAXIMUM BRAKE FORCE AVAILABLE.

Consequence:

INSUFFICIENT AIR BRAKE PRESSURE MAY CAUSE EXTENDED STOPPING DISTANCES WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN A VEHICLE CRASH.

Remedy:

THOMAS BUILT WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE AFFECTED BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON APRIL 30, 2007. OWNERS CAN CONTACT THOMAS BUILT AT 336-889-4871 OR CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 800-547-0712.

Notes:

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-493. 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 April 30, 2007. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due in this office on or before 30 days after 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