



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

*July 2, 2007*

DAVID M MIHALICK  
STANDARDS COMPLIANCE MANAGER  
THOR INDUSTRIES, INC.  
PO BOX 629  
JACKSON CENTER, OH 45334-0629

NVS-215paw  
07V-272

Subject: PROPANE TANK WELD FAILURES

Dear MR. MIHALICK:

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:**

ENC/ESCORT RE-A/1998-2003  
ENC/TRANSMARK RE/1998-2003

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 07V-272

**Mfg's Report Date:** June 8, 2007

**Components:** FUEL SYSTEM: OTHER: DELIVERY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 59

**Summary:**

ON CERTAIN REAR ENGINE BUSES BUILT WITH PROPANE TANKS, WELD FAILURES ARE OCCURRING AT THE POINT WHERE THE CONNECTING TUBES MEET THE TANK BODY.

**Consequence:**

THE WELD FAILURE MAY RESULT IN PROPANE LEAKAGE WHICH MAY RESULT IN AN EXPLOSION OR FIRE.

**Remedy:**

ELDORADO WILL REPLACE THE TANK ON THE AFFECTED VEHICLES AT NO COST TO THE OWNER. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JUNE 2007. OWNERS MAY CONTACT ELDORADO AT 1-909-591-9557.

**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).

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it does not meet the requirements of Part 577.

The second paragraph needs to read: "Eldorado National, in conjunction with Mutual Propane, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Transmark Re and Escort RE-A rear engine buses produced from January 1, 1998 to March 30, 2003. Specifically, the propane tanks installed on these buses may experience weld failures which could result in propane leakage from the tank. The leakage may result in a fire or possibly an explosion."

Also, please revise your owner letters to include the following updated NHTSA hotline information: "...the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 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>."

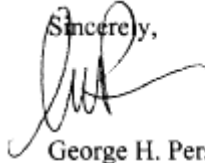
Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

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. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

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](mailto:Patricia.wallace@dot.gov), [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

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