



U.S. Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

SEP 28 2007

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

NVS-215kjs
07V-459

Subject: FMVSS 217/ROOF EMERGENCY EXIT

Dear MR. ZAMANI:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent noncompliance 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/SAF-T-LINER C2/2006-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-459

Mfg's Report Date: September 12, 2007

Components: STRUCTURE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3,581

Summary:

CERTAIN THOMAS BUILT SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN MARCH 8, 2006, AND AUGUST 10, 2007, EQUIPPED WITH ONE OR MORE "PRO LO ROOF HATCH" OPTION NUMBERS D107307001, D107307002, OR D107307003. RETROREFLECTIVE TAPE WAS NOT INSTALLED AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE ROOF MOUNTED EMERGENCY EXIT HATCH. THESE BUSES FAIL TO CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 217, "BUS EMERGENCY EXITS AND WINDOW RETENTION AND RELEASE."

Consequence:

IMPROPERLY IDENTIFIED EMERGENCY EXITS MAY HINDER EVACUATION EFFORTS.

Remedy:

THOMAS BUILT WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES BY INSTALLING RETROREFLECTIVE TAPE FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT NOVEMBER 9, 2007. OWNERS MAY CALL THOMAS BUILT AT 336-889-4871 OR CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 800-547-0712.

Notes:

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-510. 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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

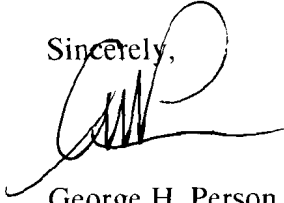
Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

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

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at 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 loop at the end of the line.

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