

WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT SMALL BUSES.

**U.S. BUS CORPORATION**  
**FAX COVER SHEET**

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Michael Sykes, Director

To: KEVIN SCHULER Date: 6/15/07

Company: NHTSA Fax: (202) 366-1767

No. of pages (incl. Cover Sheet) 13

**MESSAGE**

RECALL 06V-443 BROKEN OUT ON SEPARATE 573 NOTICE, SINCE  
VEHICLE POPULATION IS DIFFERENT.

→ ON RECALL 07V-155- THERE ARE 106 VEHICLES INVOLVED, ALL  
HAVING FREDMAN FAMILY SEATS.

ON RECALL 06V-443, FURTHER INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT (16)  
OF THE PREVIOUSLY-REPORTED VEHICLES WERE NON-SCHOOL  
BUSES WHICH DID NOT HAVE THE AFFECTED BARRIERS.

Signed, \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDED 6/12/07

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**<sup>3</sup>

On APRIL 3, 2007, U.S. BUS CORPORATION [MFR] decided that ~~(a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)~~ (a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 210 & 222) 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: APRIL 8, 2007; AMENDED JUNE 12, 2007

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 07V-155

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.

U.S. BUS CORPORATION 3 PAT MALONE DR. SUFFERN, NY 10901

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

MICHAEL A. SYKES, DIRECTOR OF WARRANTY & RECALLS

Telephone Number: (765) 939-3984 Fax No.: (765) 939-4375

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

MICHAEL A. SYKES, DIRECTOR  
WARRANTY & RECALLS

Signed: 

<sup>3</sup>Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

**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): U.S. BUS Model Years Involved: 2000-2006 Model(s): STURDIBUS,

Production Dates: Beginning: 5/1/2000 Ending: 5/2/2006 UNIVERSE  
STURDIVAN

VIN Range: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Bodystyle: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

BUSES INVOLVED ARE EQUIPPED WITH FREEDMAN FAMILY SEATS

Make(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Model Years Involved: \_\_\_\_\_ Model(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Production Dates: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

VIN Range: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Bodystyle: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Model Years Involved: \_\_\_\_\_ Model(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Production Dates: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

VIN Range: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Bodystyle: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

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. \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Identify the Recall Population**

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

<b>Model</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</b>
STURDIBUS	2006	5
STURDIBUS	2005	17
STURDIBUS	2004	57
UNIVERSE	2004	2
STURDIBUS	2003	18
UNIVERSE	2003	1
STURDIBUS	2001	4
STURDIVAN	2000	2

**Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:** 106

**4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:** 100%

**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:**

ALL MODELS BUILT THAT WERE ORDERED WITH FRIEDMAN FAMILY SEATS

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### 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.

FMVSS 210: DURING NHTSA TESTING, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THE WALL-MOUNTING BOLTS AND FLOOR-MOUNTING BOLTS COULD ROLL THROUGH THE SUPPORTING STEEL

FMVSS 222: SEAT SPACING ALLOWED SEATS TO CLOSE WITHIN THE 4" MINIMUM FOR THE HEAD FORM

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

1. INSUFFICIENT REINFORCING OF THE SUPPORTING STEEL
2. IMPROPER INSTALLATION OF THE LAP BELTS
3. SEATS SPACED TOO CLOSE TOGETHER

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

IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH, THE MOUNTING BOLTS COULD FAIL TO RETAIN THE SEAT, ALLOWING THE PASSENGER TO BE THROWN FORWARD OR TRAPPED BETWEEN THE SEATS

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

NONE

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

N/A

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

N/A

**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.

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.

TEST CONDUCTED BY MGA RESEARCH, ON BEHALF OF NHTSA, ON OR  
ABOUT APRIL 3, 2007

**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.

① TO PROVIDE CUSTOMERS WITH REINFORCING PLATES WHICH ARE FIELD-  
INSTALLABLE, AND CONCISE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE  
FURNISHED ONCE REMEDY HAS BEEN TESTED.

② REMEDY FOR BELT ISSUE WILL BE TO MOUNT BELTS IN PROPER HOLES  
PER DRAWINGS TO BE FURNISHED WITH RECALL.

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

RECALLED BUSES WILL NOT HAVE REINFORCEMENTS INSTALLED  
PRIOR TO INSPECTION.

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.

FACTORY INSTALLATION HAS BEEN CHANGED TO REFLECT THE REMEDY.

**VI. Identify the Recall Schedule**

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.

REMEDY PARTS TO BE MANUFACTURED AND SHIPPED TO ALL REGISTERED OWNERS OF RECALLED VEHICLES. CIRCULATION OF PROPOSED CUSTOMER LETTER TO BE FURNISHED TO NHTSA BY END OF APRIL, 2007

**VII. Furnish Recall Communications**

9. 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.

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