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By Recall Mgt Div. at 2:39 pm, Nov 13, 2009

07V-167
(6 pages)
Revised

November 11, 2009

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
Attention: Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC 20590

In accordance with CFR 49 Part 573, Transportation Collaborative Inc has decided to conduct this recall on behalf of US Bus Corporation (the Original manufacturer) that a non compliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 404 "Platform Lift systems for Motor Vehicles "" exist Certain 2005,2006 Universe and Sturdibus Handicap Accessible School buses manufactured by US Bus Corporation.

This report was e-mailed to NHTSA on November 11, 2009 to RMD.ODI@dot.gov In addition sent, via UPS.

If there are any questions regarding the information I have submitted, please contact me at 845-988-0419.

Respectfully,

Jose Vazquez
Warranty



7 LAKE STATION ROAD

WARWICK, NY 10990

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**PART 573 Defects and Noncompliance
Noncompliance Report
Revised**

Report Date: November 11, 2009

I.

Transportation Collaborative Inc has decided to conduct recall # **07V-167** on behalf of US Bus Corporation (the Original manufacturer). US Bus Corporation on February 5, 2007 decided a noncompliance exist with Certain 2005, 2006 Sturdibus , Universe Handicap Accessible School buses Equipped with Ricon Wheel Chair Lift models 2000 and 5000 manufactured between January 1, 2006 and September 6, 2006.

The noncompliance involves Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No.403 Platform *lift Systems for motor vehicles* “. Specifically, on Ricon Wheel Chair lift Series models 2000 and 5000. The noncompliance exists with the “Inner Barrier Interlock” installed on the Ricon Corporation Wheel chair lifts. The noncompliance with FMVS 403 is the result of the inner barrier interlock switch system in the lift base plate not detecting the presence of a passenger (either a wheelchair or a standee) on the inner barrier and allowing the platform to move down more than one inch below the floor level while occupied. .

Vehicles not involved in the recall:

Vehicles not in this recall are not handicap Accessible; do not have Ricon Corporation 2000 or 5000 Series Wheel Chair lifts.

Vehicles that are equipped with Ricon corporation 2000 and 5000 Series Wheel Chair lift manufactured after September 6,2006 or do not have matching serial numbers specified by Ricon Corporation are not involved with this recall

Vehicles involved in the recall:

2005-2006 US Bus Sturdibus/ Universe Handicap Accessible School Buses equipped with Ricon Corporation 2000 and 5000 Series Wheel Chair lift manufactured between January 1, 2006 to September 6, 2006.

II.

Approximate percentage of the total of vehicles estimated to actually contain the noncompliance:

100%

Original vehicle population as of April 9, 2007:

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles involved
Sturdibus , Universe	2005 and 2006	25





Total: 25

Revised Vehicle population as of November 11, 2009:

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles involved
Sturdibus, Universe	2005	4
	2006	18

Total: 23

Identify the recalled Items of Equipment:

Make	Model	Manufacturing Dates:
Ricon Corporation	2000-Series	January 1, 2006 – September 6, 2006
Ricon Corporation	5000-Series	January 1, 2006 -- September 6, 2006

Identify and describe how the original recall population was determined:

According to US Bus Corporation records, on February 1, 2007 Ricon Corporation notified US Bus Corporation of the non-compliance. The non-compliance involves Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 403 *“Platform lift systems for motor vehicles”*. The defect relates to interlock switch system installed in the Inner Barrier of the Ricon Series models 2000 and 5000. The notice outline that if the interlock switch on the inner barrier base plate may not detect the presence of a passenger (either wheel chair or standee) on the inner barrier and will allow the barrier to move. US Bus corporation reviewed their purchasing records and production records to identify all units equipped with Ricon Series 2000 or 5000 Wheel Chair lifts manufactured between January 1 ,2006 and September 6, 2006. TCI verified the vehicle population and has decided that the noncompliance exist on certain 2005 and 2006 US Bus Sturdibus/Universe/handicap accessible School Buses manufactured between January 1, 2006 and September 6, 2006 by US Bus Corporation. During TCI’s validation process the original vehicle population indicated by US Bus Corporation was found to be incorrect, the actual number of affected units is 23 versus 25 reported to NHTSA on April 9, 2007.

Affected Lift Serial Numbers:

193151	193155	195996	196105	196106
196107	196342	196343	197028- R	198181
198182	198183	198192	198193	198205
198206	198207	198208	199047	199109
199113	201084	201085	202358	408271





III.

Describe the Noncompliance:

The noncompliance involves FMVS 403 "*Platform lift systems for motor vehicles*" paragraphs S610.2.7, which requires "Deployment **of any inner roll stop required to comply with S6.4.8 when the inner roll stop is occupied by portions of passenger's body or mobility aid throughout the lift operation**". Specifically, the inner roll stop interlock switch may not detect a passenger on the inner surface of the lift platform and allow the lift platform to move downward more than one inch below the floor surface with the platform occupied, by either an ambulatory passenger or a person in a wheel chair. This condition can result at the time of installation, if the installer runs wires through the base plate assembly and the wires lodge under the trigger block for the interlock switch interfering with the switch movement.

Describe the consequence of the Noncompliance:

In the event that the inner barrier interlock does not detect an ambulatory passenger or a person in a wheel chair during operation, it may be possible for the wheelchair or passenger to be tipped backwards onto the platform if the user is backing into the lift from inside the vehicle. A Standee could lose his or her balance if they were positioned fully or partly on the inner barrier when the platform is lowered. Either condition could result in personal injury.

Identify any warning, which can (A) Precede or (B) Occur:

There are no warnings; the Ricon Wheel Chair Lift Series 2000 and 5000 must be physically inspected for the serial numbers that fall under the outlined serial numbers provided in this list.

Identify the supplier by corporate name and address of the defective equipment:

Ricon Corporation
7900 Nelson Road
Panorama City, California 91402
Tel 818-267-3000 Toll-free- 1800-322-2884 Fax 818-267-3001
www.RiconCorp.com E-mail Sales@RiconCorp.com

IV.





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:

February 1, 2007- Ricon Corporation , notified US Bus Corporation about the potential noncompliance with their wheel chair lift Series models 2000 and 5000 and the “ Inner Barrier Interlock “. A noncompliance that relates to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 403 “*Platform lift systems on motor vehicles* “.

February 5, 2007 – US Bus Corporation (the original manufacture) decided that a noncompliance that relates to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 403 “*Platform lift systems on motor vehicles* “exist with Certain 2005 and 2006 US Bus Sturdibus / Universe handicap accessible school buses manufactured between January 1, 2006 and September 6, 2006 Equipped with Ricon Wheel Chair Lift Series 2000 and 5000.

April 9, 2007 – US Bus Corporation filed a 573 report to NHTSA- Recall number 07V-167 was assigned to the campaign

October 19, 2009 – Transportation Collaborative Inc on behalf of US Bus Corporation has decided to conduct recall number 07V-056 on vehicles manufactured by US Bus. The defect, which involves FMVS 403, are on US Bus Sturdibus/ Universe handicap accessible School Buses built between January 1, 2006 and September 6, 2006 equipped with Ricon Wheel Chair lift series 2000 and 5000.

Identify the remedy:

Transportation Collaborative Inc will notify the owners of the affected vehicles and dealers that sold the vehicles on behalf of US Bus Corporation and Ricon Corporation. Customers and dealers will be required to inspect the vehicles for the defect involving FMVS No. 403 “*Platform lift systems on motor vehicles*” *Specifically*, to inspect the Ricon wheel chair lift located at the rear of the vehicle for the equipment serial numbers that match the list provided by Ricon Corporation. Dealers and customers will be asked to report the serial number as it relates the affected “ Inner Barrier Interlocks “ .The lift repair may include removal and or re-routing any added wire running through the base plate and or replacement of the switch block assembly. TCI will supply customers, dealers and or any authorized repair facility with replacement Switch Block Assemblies on behalf of Ricon Corporation at no cost. Customers will be supplied with instructions on how to inspect and repair any affected lift. TCI will assist all customers with scheduling repairs and locating authorized repair facilities.

Any cost incurred to the owners ,purchasers and dealers of Vehicles affected by recall number 07V- 167 will be reimbursed by Transportation Collaborative Inc. on behalf of





Any cost incurred to the owners ,purchasers and dealers of Vehicles affected by recall number 07V- 167 will be reimbursed by Transportation Collaborative Inc. on behalf of US Bus Corporation and Ricon Corporation within a reasonable time of the notifications. Transportation Collaborative Inc. reimburses customers and dealers within 30days of the remedy.

According to US Bus Corporation records, the remedy set by Ricon Corporation was also implemented within production. All Ricon Corporation Wheel Chair lift series models 2000 and 5000 were inspected and repaired before any vehicles equipped with them could be released.

Recall Schedule:

Upon approval of this report , TCI Will begin to notify customers on Behalf of US Bus Corporation by issuing Notification letters to the dealers and customers along with labels and inspection/ installation instructions no later then **November 23,2009**.

All questions regarding this recall should be addressed to:

Jose Vazquez
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Transportation Collaborative Inc.
7 Lake Station Road
Warwick, New York 10990
Phone# 845-988-0419 Fax# 845-988-0327

Prepared by: Jose Vazquez, Warranty Department TCI

Signature: _____ Date: 11/11/2009

