

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles  
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports<sup>1</sup>

On April 27<sup>th</sup> 2007, Girardin Minibus decided that non compliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 210 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 Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 07-017-SLU

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.

Girardin Minibus, Inc.  
Trans Canada Highway  
Drummondville (Quebec) Canada  
J2B 6V4

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

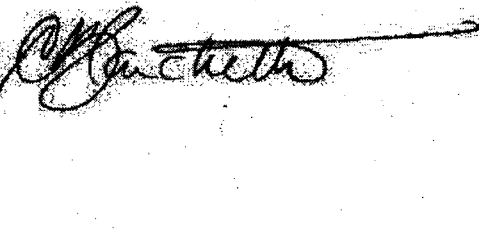
Chantal Blanchette  
Service & Warranty Coordinator

Telephone Number: 819-477-8222 ext. 401 Fax No.: 819-475-9633

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report:

Chantal Blanchette  
Service & Warranty Coordinator

Signed:



RECEIVED  
2007 MAY - 1 A 11:53  
OFFICE OF DEFECTS  
INVESTIGATION

<sup>1</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 Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210 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):** Girardin                      **Model Years Involved:** 2006-2007

**Model(s):** MB IV School buses, model G5

**Production Dates: Beginning:** May 4, 2006 **Ending:** September 18, 2006

**VIN Range: Beginning:** ----- **Ending:** -----

**Vehicle Type:** Ford chassis E-series E450, GM chassis with 6.6L diesel engine & GM chassis with 6.0L gas engine

**Body style:** School buses, model G5

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

Vehicles with 45 inch seats equipped with Type 2 seat belts were installed with one leg but should have had 2 legs on the floor in order to meet FMVSS 210 requirements.

**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.**

5% of the MB IV school buses, model G5, manufactured from May 4, 2006 to September 18, 2006

**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 Potentially Involved Vehicles</b>
MB IV School bus G5	2006	09
MB IV School bus G5	2007	01

**Total Number Potentially Affected by the recall:** 10

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

100% of the vehicles equipped with 45 inch seats with type 2 seat belts

**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:**

A research was made to select all School minibuses equipped with 45 inch seats with Type 2 seat belts. We then established date of production of first vehicle and of the last one.

**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.**

Vehicles equipped with 45 inch seats with Type 2 seat belts were installed with one leg but should have had 2 legs on the floor in order to meet FMVSS 210 requirements.

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

One leg was missing in the bill of material of that particular equipment.

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

In case of impact, the seat with one leg will not withstand the force incurred.

**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.**

-----

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

-----

**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.**

On April 27<sup>th</sup>, an inspection of floor plan on one vehicle containing these seats was done and after verification with design engineer, it was determined that one leg was missing.

On April 30<sup>th</sup>, we inspected the bus and it everything was done accordingly

**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.**

Certification of 45 inch seats with type 2 seat belts was performed. The 45 inch seat was previously certified with two legs to meet FMVSS 210 and it was obvious that the vehicles with only one leg would not meet requirements.

**V. Identify the Remedy**

**8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.**

A notification letter will be mailed to the end users & dealers. We will recommend them to install one additional leg as per the procedure we will supply with the notification letter. Girardin Minibus will assume all reasonable charges related to the remedy.

**9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.**

Customer has to install one additional leg to his 45 inch seat

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

Recalled vehicles have one leg, one additional leg needs to be installed.

**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.**

On April 27<sup>th</sup>, bill of material was corrected to show 2 legs are needed in this particular equipment.

## **VI. Identify the Recall Schedule**

**10. 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.**

We will mail a letter to the owners (dealers or end users) of all the minibuses affected by this recall no later than 3 weeks after we receive approval from NHTSA. The parts needed and the recall installation procedure will be shipped free of charge to all the owners of the minibuses as soon as we have located them. The labor will be reimbursed.

## **VII. Furnish Recall Communications**

**11. 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 579.5 requirements.**

| We will supply a draft copy of the notification letter as soon as possible,