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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

Post Office Box 3008
Hayward, CA 94540-3008
(510) 785-1500

June 4, 2007

Mr. George Person
Head - Recall Management Division
US DOT - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office Of Defects (NBS-215)
400 - 7th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

07V-259
(6 pages)

Re: Gillig Safety Recall - Hydraulic Hose

Dear Mr. Person:

This letter is written to inform you of Gillig's intention to notify customers of a potential safety defect related to hydraulic hoses installed in Gillig transit buses manufactured in 2007. The recall affects 291 buses.

Gillig has discovered a potential defect in the assembly and crimping of high pressure hydraulic hoses installed in the engine compartment.

Attached is Gillig's 573 report. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 510-264-5031 or e-mail chuck.koske@gillig.com

Sincerely,

GILLIG CORPORATION

Charles E. Koske
Senior Vice President, Engineering

CEK/vo
Attachment

cc: Robert Birdwell
Steve Enochian

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On May 28, 2007 the Gillig Corporation [MFR] decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety 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: June 1, 2007

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): _____

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.

Gillig Corporation 25800 Clawiter Road Hayward, Ca 94545

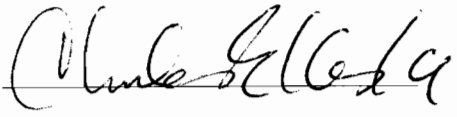
Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Charles E. Koske Sr. Vice President Engineering

Telephone Number: (510) 264-5031 Fax No.: 510) 264-3897

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Charles E. Koske
Sr. Vice President Engineering

Signed: 

¹ 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): Gillig **Model Years Involved:** 2007 **Model(s):** Phantom & low floor transit buses

Production Dates: March 1, 2007 **Ending:** May 29, 2007

VIN Range: : not significant

Vehicle Type: Bus **Bodystyle:** high & low floor buses

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

Use of specific suspect hydraulic hose assemblies identified by part number

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.

Approximately 90% of Gillig buses built during the time period could have the suspect hose assemblies

II. Identify the Recall Population

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

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
Phantom	2007	46
Low Floor	2007	245

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 291

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

Gillig estimates 30% of the population have the suspect hose.

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:

Vehicle production dates based on suspect hose supply dates from the hose manufacturer

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.

The defect is a potential leaking hydraulic hose located in the engine compartment of rear engine buses

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

The defect to the hydraulic hose is due to incorrect hose assembly by the manufacturer with an improper crimp of the collar.

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

A hydraulic fluid leak which could lead to a loss of fluid which could effect vehicle steering or create the conditions for a potential engine compartment fire.

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

Two types of warning are possible. A hose leak could exist that would leave fluid drops under the vehicle which could be seen. Also, a larger leak or a continuing small leak would activate the low hydraulic fluid warning lamp in the drivers area.

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

The suspect hoses are supplied to Gillig by Delta Rubber

Delta Rubber
2648 Teepee Drive
Stockton, Ca 94205-2421

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

Mr. Doug John Vice President

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.

On May 21, 2007 Gillig experienced a hose failure on a bus being delivered. It was towed back to the Gillig factory and a failed hydraulic hose was discovered. Quality Control follow up and review yielded an incorrect hydraulic hose assembly with an improper crimp on a population of hoses supplied to Gillig by Delta Rubber..

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.

Gillig will send hoses that are correctly assembled to the notified customers if their inspection indicates the hose is of the suspect population. They will have them replaced or replace the hose themselves (most customers are bus fleets with their own maintenance departments) and submit a warranty claim for payment.

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

Hose will be identified by part number tag on the hose assembly.

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.

Correctly assembled and crimped hoses were installed.

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.

Gillig will notify customers within five working days of receiving the recall number and approval of the customer notification letter.

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.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579, As Amended: This information is requested pursuant to the authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response maybe used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action