

December 6, 2007

**VIA E-MAIL**  
**RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED**

Mr. Daniel Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

**07V-567**  
**(10 pages)**

Re: Champion Bus  
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Champion Bus has been notified by Braun concerning a safety non-compliance with FMVSS 403 involving wheel chair lift products built between July 6, 2005 and July 19, 2006 inclusive. Braun has already initiated a safety recall campaign with respect to this non-compliance. NHTSA has assigned recall number 06E-094 to the Braun recall campaign.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain buses manufactured by Champion Bus were built with Braun wheel chair lifts that contain the non-compliance.

As more specifically set forth below, Braun has agreed to conduct the recall campaign involving these non-compliant wheel chair lifts. Champion Bus will provide Braun with a list of dealers and owners to assist Braun in remedying the non-compliance. Braun will be filing the quarterly reports in connection with the recall campaign.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The non-compliant wheel chair lifts supplied by Braun have been used on certain bus models as the Champion, Challenger, Crusader, CTS, Defender and General Coach model Corporal and the M1235 bus, which were manufactured by Champion Bus between June of 2005 and October of 2007. The total number of buses subject to this recall campaign is 375.
- B. Description of Defect. The threshold warning systems of the wheelchair lifts do not conform to the threshold warning signal requirements of FMVSS 403 S6.1.3. No accidents have been reported as a result of this condition to date.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Champion Bus received notification from Braun on November 16, 2007 that the non-compliance with the wheel chair lifts exists.

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

- D. Remedying of Defect. As set forth in the notification issued by Braun in connection with recall campaign 06E-094, Braun will correct the wheel chair lift if found to be non-compliant. The owners of the buses subject to this recall campaign will be advised to contact Braun in order to make arrangements to have the remedy completed by Braun. Braun will implement the recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in recall campaign 06E-094. Braun has agreed to remedy the defect without charge to the owners.
- E. Owner Notifications. Braun will notify the owner's of the buses non behalf of Champion. A copy of the owner's notification letter is attached.
- F. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Braun will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with recall campaign 06E-094. Because the information included by Braun in its quarterly reports will encompass the remedying of the Champion Bus buses subject to this recall campaign, Champion Bus will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication.
- G. Campaign Number. Champion Bus does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Champion Bus will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Champion Bus with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Champion Bus in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick  
Thor Industries, Standards Compliance Manager

International Corporate Headquarters:

**The Braun Corporation**  
631 W. 11th Street  
P.O.Box 310  
Winamac, IN 46996 USA  
**1-800-THE LIFT**  
(574) 946-6153  
FAX: (574) 946-4670

[www.braunmobility.com](http://www.braunmobility.com)



**Date:** November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007

**To:** All Lift Dealers

**Subject:** NHTSA Threshold Warning Signal Recall (Recall Number 06E-094)

I am writing to inform you that The Braun Corporation recently initiated a recall that concerns series 02 through 04 NHTSA compliant Dual Parallel Arm wheelchair lifts. We will soon be notifying all lift owners we have record of, and that are affected by this recall, via U.S. Postal Service First Class Mail. The letter being sent to customers will contain the NHTSA required notification documents as well as information the recipient will need to know in order to test and repair their lift. In taking this action, The Braun Corporation is hoping to lessen the burden on our dealers in contacting the persons affected by this action.

Shortly, you will receive information about lifts that we do not have owner contact information. Please provide this information to us and we will be happy to mail this information directly to the owner of the lift. However, if we do not receive the owner information by December 21st, 2007, we will send you the owner packages, and you will be required to notify these lift owners of this safety recall.

In taking this action, Braun continues to place the safety of our customers at the top of its list of priorities. We are also committed to support our dealer partners in their effort to take care of their customers. It is our hope that the steps outlined in this letter will serve to reaffirm that commitment and acknowledge the value we place in our working relationship. Should you have any questions with regard to the matters outlined above, feel free to contact The Braun Corporation's Product Support Department.

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Rick Nelson, Director of Product Support

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[www.braunmobility.com](http://www.braunmobility.com)



Dear Valued Braun Customer:

The Braun Corporation is committed to keeping you informed of important information concerning the Braun product you purchased from an authorized Braun Mobility Dealer. Our emphasis on building the safest and most reliable products is likely among the reasons you have chosen Braun for your Mobility needs and we appreciate and value your business.

The attached recall notification is our way of keeping you safe and satisfied with your lift. We are asking you read and follow the instructions carefully. The inspection and retro-fit (if needed) should be completed in less than 15 minutes. However, if after following the directions you determine further attention is needed from one of our authorized service centers, the Braun Corporation will pay for the recall repair.

We regret any inconvenience you may incur in answering this recall notification. Please know that The Braun Corporation will continue do our part to keep you safe and secure and will remain committed to standing by the mobility products we sell.

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Rick Nelson, Director of Product Support.

**Braun Corporate Quality Policy:**

Together, we will meet or exceed customer expectations. We pursue activities that lead to continual improvement through inspection, analysis and regular review throughout the organization of our quality objectives.

# Service Bulletin 34273

October 2007

Instructions for Braun Corporation "Public and Private Use" Dual Parallel Arm Lift Threshold Sensitivity Evaluation and NHTSA Compliance Applicable for NL, NCL and NVL Series Lifts



**Introduction:** Per NHTSA requirements - a visual and/or audible warning\* is to activate if the threshold area is occupied when the lift platform is at least one inch below floor level.

\* **Note:** A visual and audible warning system is required for Public Use lifts. Braun Private Use lifts feature an audible warning only.

This bulletin outlines the procedures required for testing lift threshold sensitivity (details below). Check the activation of the threshold warning system as outlined. If the threshold warning functions as intended - **disregard** the remainder of the bulletin. The lift threshold warning is NHTSA compliant.

If there is a non-responsive location on the threshold plate (alarm does not activate), correct the activation sensitivity as detailed in the retrofit instructions on pages 2 and 3 of this bulletin. Test the threshold sensitivity again to ensure proper activation.

**Note:** For clarity, the photos appearing in this bulletin depict a lift base plate weldment, threshold plate and tape switches only.

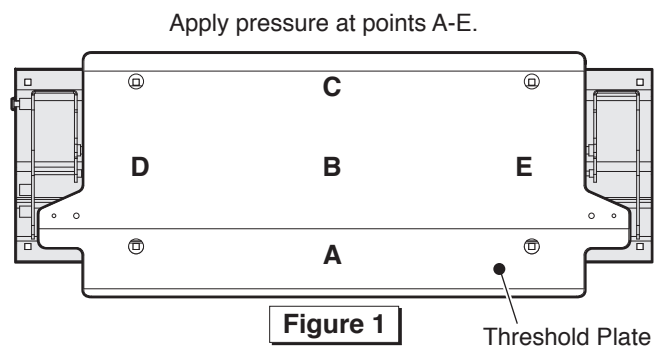
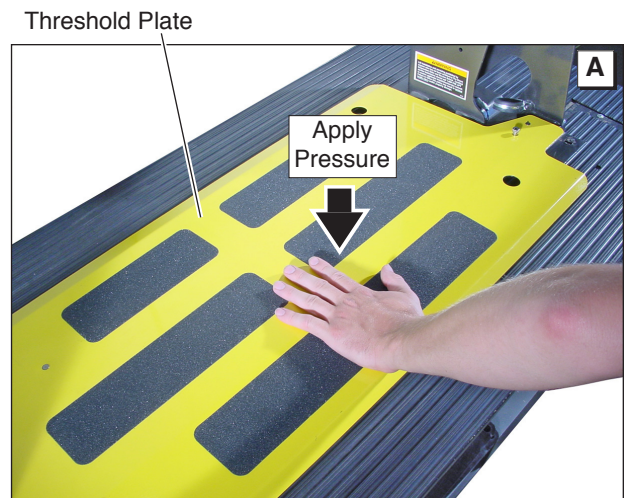
## Threshold Sensitivity Test

1. Turn Lift Power switch ON. Deploy the lift platform fully to the ground.
2. Apply hand pressure on the center of the threshold plate as shown in Photo A. The visual and/or audible threshold warning\* should be activated when you push down.

Repeat the sensitivity test procedure at positions A-E shown in Figure 1.

3. If the threshold alarm is activated at all positions, no further procedures are required. The lift threshold sensitivity meets NHTSA FMVSS 403/404 requirements.

If the threshold alarm is not activated at all positions, perform the retrofit procedures detailed on pages 2 and 3 of this bulletin. Repeat the sensitivity test procedures following the retrofit. If the lift still does not meet the requirement, contact a Braun Corporation Product Support representatives at 1-800-THE LIFT®.



# Lift Threshold Sensitivity Bulletin 34273

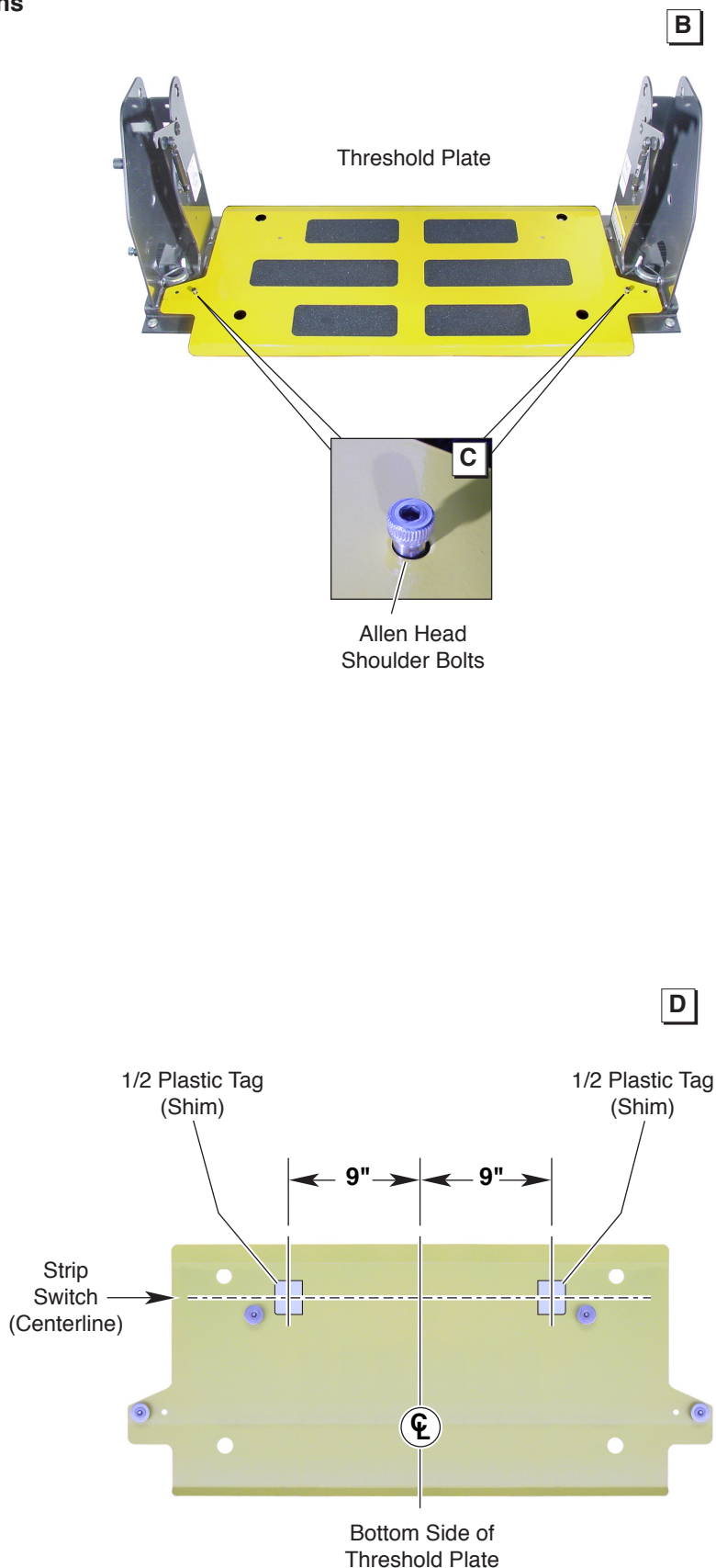
## Threshold Sensitivity Retrofit Instructions

1. Turn Lift Power switch ON. Deploy the lift platform fully to the ground.
2. Remove the threshold plate. Loosen and remove two Allen head shoulder bolts securing the plate (see Photos B and C). Keep bolts. Slide the plate outward and lift to remove it (four keeper standoffs engage key-hole slots). See Photos E, F and G.
3. An adhesive-backed plastic tag is supplied to serve as an alarm activation shim (minimal thickness required to activate the highly sensitive alarm strip switches). Cut the plastic tag in two halves. The plastic tags (shims) will be affixed to the bottom side of the threshold plate (positioned as shown and detailed below).

Turn threshold plate over. See Photo D. The strip switches typically leave an impression (mark) on the yellow plate from use. Use the impression of the inboard strip switch as a centerline for shim positioning (or measure to establish position).

Position each shim 9" from the center of the threshold plate (see Photo D). Align the tags with the strip switch centerline. Clean the surface as detailed below and affix the adhesive-backed tag to the plate (**press firmly**).

**Note:** Clean the surface with isopropyl alcohol before affixing the tag. Use a clean cloth or paper towels. Do not use oily shop rags. Wipe surface free of residue with dry portion of cleaning cloth.



# Lift Threshold Sensitivity Bulletin 34273

## Threshold Sensitivity Retrofit Instructions

4. Reposition the threshold plate (with shim). Align the keeper standoffs (studs) on the bottom of the threshold plate with the base plate keyhole slots. See Photos E, F and G. Insert studs and **carefully** slide the plate inward (engage slots fully).

When repositioning the threshold plate - **note the following**:

**Ensure** all hoses and wiring harnesses routed through the base plate gutter are positioned fully in the gutter and not located anywhere they could potentially interfere with activation of the tape switches. See Photo E.

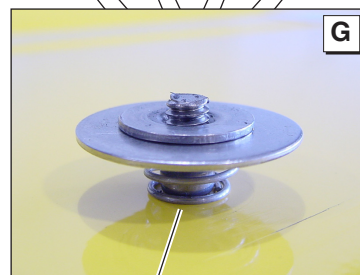
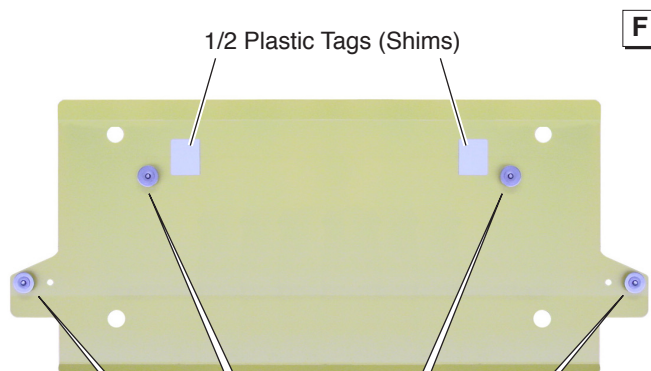
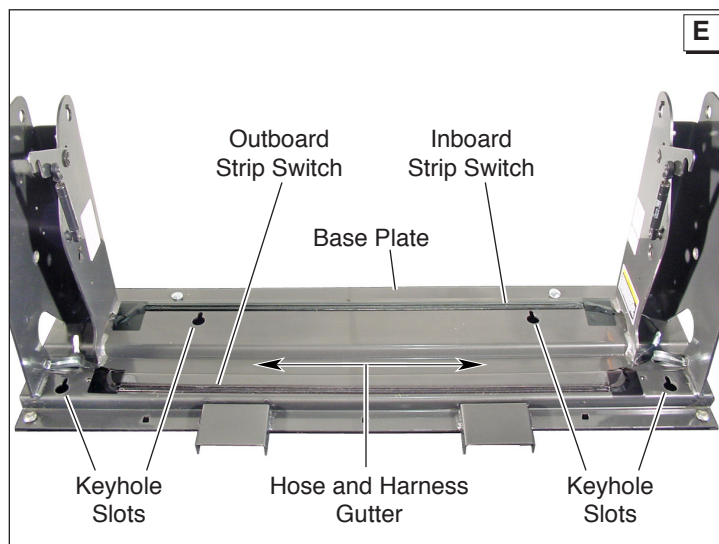
**Note:** Spraying a light mist of glass cleaner (or other) to the strip switches will aid in the plate sliding easier into position. See Photos E, F and G.

**Ensure** all four keeper standoffs engage the base plate keyhole slots.

5. Reinstall the two Allen head shoulder bolts previously securing the plate (see Photo B and C). Tighten bolts securely.
6. Repeat the sensitivity test procedures outlined on page 1.

If the threshold alarm is activated at all positions, no further procedures are required. The lift threshold sensitivity meets NHTSA FMVSS 403/404 requirements.

If the threshold alarm is not activated at all positions, contact a Braun Corporation Product Support representatives at 1-800-THE LIFT®.



Keeper Standoffs  
(Engagement Studs)

**PLEASE HELP US UPDATE OUR RECORDS BY  
SENDING THIS POSTAGE PAID CARD BACK TO US.**

Model \_\_\_\_\_ Series \_\_\_\_\_ Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

You have read the information packet and determined one of the following:

- ☐ Threshold was tested and no further action is needed.  
☐ Threshold was tested and retrofit was installed which repaired the non-conformance.  
☐ Retrofit was installed but further attention is needed, and you contacted The Braun Corporation.

If none of these apply, please let us know why:

- ☐ Scrapped ☐ Stolen ☐ Exported ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

This vehicle was sold to (check one if applicable):

- ☐ A dealer, or someone whose name and address is unknown.  
☐ Someone other than a dealer (type or print the new owner's name and address below).

Date of sale: \_\_\_\_\_

Updated name and address (type or print the new owner's name and address or your new name and/or address if it has changed):

Owner's title (check one if applicable):

- ☐ Mr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mr. & Mrs. ☐ Dr.  
☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Rev. ☐ Business

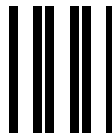
First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_



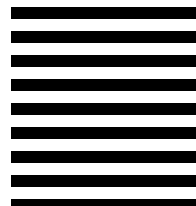
## BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 55 WINAMAC IN

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

THE BRAUN CORPORATION  
WARRANTY DEPT.  
631 WEST 11th STREET  
PO BOX 310  
WINAMAC IN 46996-9900

NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



**The Braun Corporation does not have customer information on the Wheelchair lifts listed on this spreadsheet. As our letter contained in this packet states, we will be happy to send these customers the recall information if you provide us the end user registration details by December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007.**

**For your end user customers that we have registration details, The Braun Corporation will be informing them of this recall; the mailing should go out by Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007.**

| Model       | Ser. & Serial      | Dealer NAME  | Dealer<br>Purchase_DATE | CUST_ORDER_ID |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| NL919IB     | 03-0000            | BRAUN DEALER | 13-Jul-05               | 11111         |
| NL918IB     | 03-0001            | BRAUN DEALER | 03-Aug-05               | 11112         |
| NL955SE3143 | 03-0002            | BRAUN DEALER | 09-Aug-05               | 11113         |
| NL955SE3143 | 03-0003            | BRAUN DEALER | 22-Aug-05               | 11114         |
| NL955SE3143 | 03-0004            | BRAUN DEALER | 23-Aug-05               | 11115         |
| NL919IB     | 03-0005            | BRAUN DEALER | 08-Sep-05               | 11116         |
| NL919IB     | 03-0006            | BRAUN DEALER | 08-Sep-05               | 11117         |
| NL955SE3143 | 03-0007            | BRAUN DEALER | 09-Sep-05               | 11118         |
| NL919IB     | 03-0008            | BRAUN DEALER | 20-Sep-05               | 11119         |
| NL919IB     | 03-0009            | BRAUN DEALER | 20-Sep-05               | 11120         |
| NL919IB     | 03-0010            | BRAUN DEALER | 20-Sep-05               | 11121         |
| NL955SE3143 | 03-0011            | BRAUN DEALER | 26-Sep-05               | 11122         |
| NL919IB     | 03-0012            | BRAUN DEALER | 02-Dec-05               | 11123         |
| NL919IB     | 03-0013            | BRAUN DEALER | 02-Dec-05               | 11124         |
| NL919IB     | 03-0014            | BRAUN DEALER | 02-Dec-05               | 11125         |
| NL955SE3143 | 04-00001           | BRAUN DEALER | 22-Feb-06               | 11126         |
| NL919IB     | 04-00002           | BRAUN DEALER | 21-Apr-06               | 11127         |
| NL919IB     | 04-00003           | BRAUN DEALER | 21-Apr-06               | 11128         |
| NL955SE3143 | 04-00004           | BRAUN DEALER | 25-Apr-06               | 11129         |
| NL919IB     | 04-00005           | BRAUN DEALER | 03-Jul-06               | 11130         |
| NL919IB     | 04-00006           | BRAUN DEALER | 03-Jul-06               | 11131         |
| NL919IB     | 04-00007           | BRAUN DEALER | 03-Jul-06               | 11132         |
|             | Braun Dealer Count | 22           |                         |               |