



December 14, 2009

"SAFETY RECALL NOTICE"
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
RECALL NO: 07V-155

Transportation Collaborative Inc; OBO US Bus Corporation School Bus
TCI Recall #: 07V-155

Vehicle VIN number:
Customer Name:
Customer Address:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Transportation Collaborative Inc. has decided that certain Sturdibus, Universe and Metrovan School Buses, model years 2000 thru 2006, equipped with Freedman Family Seats and manufactured between May 1, 2000 and May 2, 2006 fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 222 "*Seat Belt Assembly and Crash Protection*"

What the safety concern is:

The non-compliance relates to failure of certain seat attachments to the vehicle body structure, when equipped with Freedman Family Seat series school bus seats. These seat attachments do not meet the load force and retention requirements, as defined by Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 222 "*School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection*". Some Seats may also have seatbelts which are not attached to the proper anchors. In addition, other seats may not meet FMVSS 222 rearward deflection requirements due to the seat spacing, which are too close together.

Specifically, during a frontal vehicle crash, non-complaint seats may become detached from the vehicle body structure at the floor and/or wall attachment points, resulting in the seat with the occupant being projected forward colliding with the seat or Impact barrier in the forward adjacent position. During a rear crash, the seat back of an occupied seat may deflect rearward against the occupants to the rear. A non-compliant seat could fail to remain attached to the vehicle body structure as required by the standard and may



7 LAKE STATION ROAD

WARWICK, NY 10990

PHONE: (845) 988-2333



result in severe injury or mortality to the vehicle occupant. There is no risk of injury to persons outside the vehicle, as a result of this non-compliance.

A compliant seat will remain attached to its mounting structure under a crash condition and minimize forward travel reducing the potential severity of injury to the vehicle occupant. Proper seat spacing will minimize rearward travel of the seat back in a rear crash, reducing the potential severity of injury to occupants at the rear of the vehicle.

There is no visible distinction between a compliant and a non-compliant seat, and no prior warning which indicates non-compliance exist. All Freedman Family Seat series, school bus seats, as installed by US Bus Corporation are presumed to be non-compliant and must be updated to meet the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Standard 222.

The Remedy:

Transportation Collaborative Inc. will affect repairs to your vehicle by the addition of reinforcement plates at the seat legs to the floor attachments and the installation of a reinforcement bracket at the wall rail, for each seat location. Additionally some seat belts may require relocation from the seat-mounting stud to the seat base frame. Some vehicles will require verification of seat spacing and possible re-spacing of seats, replacement of the seat bottom foam and cover, in order to meet the seat space requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Standard 222.

The inspection and remedy procedure will be available to customers and TCI dealers no later than December 31, 2009.

Parts availability necessary to affect repairs for this recall is anticipated to be no later than December 31, 2009.

The expected out of service time necessary to affect repairs is 15 hours, however this may vary due to dealer service scheduling requirements.

What we are requesting you do:

Transportation Collaborative is requesting that you (the end user), contact TCI at 845-988-0419 to arrange for inspection and scheduling of the repair by an authorized facility.

Upon completion of the vehicle inspection please have the prepaid response card filled out and sent back to Transportation collaborative:

TCI OBO US Bus Corporation
Warranty Department
7 Lake Station Road
Warwick, NY 10990

Address or ownership change:





Please notify us of any change of address or vehicle ownership. If you are the lesser of the above - mentioned vehicle, you must forward this letter to the lessee within ten (10) days of receipt of this letter.

What Transportation Collaborative will do for you?

Transportation Collaborative Inc. will affect repairs relating to this recall, both parts and labor, at no cost to you the vehicle owner. Upon receipt of the response card, we will immediately ship out the replacement parts to you directly, or to an authorized repair facility as directed by TCI. You may perform the recall yourself, or you may contact us and we will arrange for you to take your vehicle to an authorized repair facility.

If repairs or modifications outlined by this notice have been preformed prior to the receipt of this recall notification, complete the prepaid response card and the reimbursement form included with this letter with a copy of the work order or invoice to Transportation Collaborative Inc for reimbursement. TCI reimburses dealers, customers and authorized repair facilities within 30 days of the completed repair.

If you have any questions:

Transportation Collaborative Inc. customer service/warranty department will be happy to assist you with any questions.

For further information, please contact:

Jose Vazquez
Transportation Collaborative Inc
Warranty Department
7 Lake Station Road
Warwick New York 10990
Phone 845-988-0419 Fax 845-988-0324
E-mail: jvazquez@transtechbus.com

Transportation Collaborative Inc. has, in the interest of public safety and good will to the community, decided to conduct this recall on behalf of US Bus Corporation, the original manufacturer of your vehicle. All questions regarding this recall must be directed to Transportation Collaborative Inc, as noted in the body of this Recall Notice.

If you have a complaint:

If you have difficulties getting your vehicle repaired in a reasonable timeframe and without charge, please contact Transportation Collaborative Inc. customer service at 1-845-988-0419 or e-mail TCI at jvazquez@transtechbus.com for further assistance. Representatives are available Monday thru Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm (EST).





If you are still having difficulties getting your vehicle repaired in a reasonable time you may send your complaints to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE. Washington, and D. C. 20590 or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153): or go to <http://www.safercar.gov> .

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, we regret any inconvenience this recall may have caused.

Sincerely,

Jose Vazquez
Transportation Collaborative Inc.



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REQUEST FOR WARRANTY/RECALL REPAIR REIMBURSEMENT

7 Lake Station Road, Warwick New York 10990

FOR PROMPT ACTION, PLEASE FAX REQUEST TO (845) 988-0324

SEND ALL PAGES FOR REIMBURSEMENT

WARRANTY/RECALL REPAIR REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST

Distributor Name	Address	City	State	Zip
Phone	FAX	E-Mail		

Vehicle Type: _____

Body Job Number	VIN (all digits):	Odometer	Date of Request
Customer Name:		Date of Manufacture	
Customer Address:		Date of Delivery	
City	State	Zip	Phone # FAX

Description of Defect or Complaint, Cause and Correction Requested

Defect Code	Flat Rate Labor Hours	Labor Rate	Labor Cost	Sublet Shop Name	Attach copy of parts house invoice if not a TCI part.		
Part Number	Description			Quantity	Cost Each	Total Cost	Notes

Disposition by Factory _____

Authorized By: _____

Denied By: _____

Total Parts: _____

Total Labor _____

Total Amt. Requested _____



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Date: _____

Amount Denied _____



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