



U.S. Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

January 30, 2008

DAVID M MIHALICK
STANDARDS COMPLIANCE MANAGER
THOR INDUSTRIES, INC.
419 WEST PIKE STREET
PO BOX 629
JACKSON CENTER, OH 45334-0629

NVS-215dgl
08V-043

Subject: ANTI-STOW INTERLOCK/FMVSS 404/RICON

Dear MR. MIHALICK:

This letter serves to acknowledge Eldorado National – California’s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below, for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

ELDORADO/MST/2005-2007
ELDORADO/MST II/2005-2007
ELDORADO/TRANSMARK /2005-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-043

Mfg’s Report Date: January 17, 2008

Components: EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 21

Summary:

ELDORADO NATIONAL - CALIFORNIA (ENC) IS RECALLING 21 MY 2005-2007 MST, MST II AND TRANSMARK BUSES EQUIPPED WITH RICON PLATFORM STYLE WHEELCHAIR LIFTS MANUFACTURED FROM APRIL 2005 TO JUNE 2007. THE LIFTS FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 404, "PLATFORM LIFT INSTALLATIONS IN MOTOR VEHICLES." THE ANTI-STOW INTERLOCK MAY NOT DETECT THE PRESENCE OF A WHEELCHAIR OR MOBILITY AID USER. THE PRESSURE SENSING SWITCH THAT DETECTS THE PRESENCE OF WEIGHT ON THE PLATFORM WAS NOT ADJUSTED TO THE NECESSARY SENSITIVITY LEVEL. THE LIFT COULD STOW EVEN THOUGH SOMEONE OR SOMETHING IS STILL ON THE LIFT.

Consequence:

A LIFT OCCUPANT CAN BE INJURED SHOULD THE LIFT BEGIN TO STOW UNINTENTIONALLY.

Remedy:

ENC IS WORKING WITH RICON TO CORRECT THE WHEELCHAIR LIFT (PLEASE SEE 07E097). OWNERS MAY CONTACT RICON AT 818-267-3000 OR ENC AT 1-937-596-6849.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

Federal law requires that the vehicle manufacturer notify owners, dealers and distributors about the defect and offer a free remedy as well as other things. Also, manufacturers are required to submit a draft of their owner notification letter to the Recall Management Division at least 5 days prior to mailing it to owners, and to submit a representative copy of any communication about the recall that is sent to more than one owner, dealer or distributor within 5 days of mailing it. The owner notification must be mailed to current registered owners using State motor vehicle registration records, or, if State registration records fail to yield a usable address, to the most recent owner known to the manufacturer. The vehicle manufacturers must notify their dealers even though they may not be involved in this recall, since owners may contact them for information.

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in your report, Ricon will be handling the remedy and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.6 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Ricon's campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525, by email at Patricia.wallace@dot.gov, Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Person", written in a cursive style.

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement