



U.S. Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

March 19, 2008

MR. PAUL MURPHY
DIRECTOR, REGULATORY COMPLIANCE
MOTOR COACH INDUSTRIES, INC.
1475 CLARENCE AVENUE, DOOR 10 NPD
WINNIPEG, MB, CANADA 00 R3T 1T5

NVS-215dgl
08V-121

Subject: TAG SWING AXLE ARM

Dear MR. MURPHY:

This letter serves to acknowledge Motor Coach Industries Inc.'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:

MCI/G4100/2000-2004
MCI/G4500/2000-2004

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-121

Mfg's Report Date: March 12, 2008

Components: SUSPENSION: REAR: AXLE: NON-POWERED AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 542

Summary:

MCI IS RECALLING 542 MY 2000-2004 G4100 AND G4500 COACHES. CERTAIN REWORKED TAG AXLE ARM ASSEMBLIES HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED WITH NEW CRACKS FORMING. SOME OF THE TAG AXLE ARM ASSEMBLIES THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN REPAIRED DURING RECALL 03V-411 OR 06V458 MAY HAVE BEEN REPAIRED WITH UNIDENTIFIED MICRO FRACTURES AND/OR INSUFFICIENT WELD PENETRATION.

Consequence:

IF THE TAG AXLE SWING ARM CRACKS AND REMAINS UNDETECTED, THE CRACKS CAN SPREAD AND POTENTIALLY RESULT IN A PARTIAL OR TOTAL SEPARATION OF THE TAG AXLE ASSEMBLY FROM THE COACH, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL RE-INSPECT AND IF CRACKS ARE IDENTIFIED OR INCORRECT WELDS IN THE PREVIOUSLY REPAIRED AREAS, BOTH RIGHT AND LEFT TAG ARM ASSEMBLIES WILL BE REPLACED. IF NO PROBLEMS ARE IDENTIFIED, DEALERS WILL REINSTALL THE EXISTING TAG AXLE ARM ASSEMBLIES WITH NEW HARDWARE FREE OF CHARGE. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS CAMPAIGN SUPERSEDES MCI'S PREVIOUS RECALL (PLEASE SEE 03V411 AND 06V458). THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MARCH 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT MOTOR COACH AT 1-800-241-2947.

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).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it does not meet the requirements of Part 577.

Please add a sentence describing a risk, i.e., "If the tag axle swing arm cracks and remains undetected, the cracks can spread and potentially result in a partial or total separation of the tag axle assembly from the coach, increasing the risk of a crash."

A reimbursement for prior repair paragraph needs to be added, i.e., "If you had this repair performed before you received this letter, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall, please contact MCI at"

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

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 Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

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 or 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 cursive script that reads "Patricia Wallace" followed by a small flourish.

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

cc: Mr. Timothy Nalepka, MCI Coach