U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

March 21, 2008

MR. GLEN K. PERLMAN
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/GENERAL COUNSEL
NATIONAL VAN BUILDERS, INC.
80 PINE STREET
ATTLEBORO, MA 02703

NVS-215dgl
08V-125

Subject: FMVSS 404/THRESHOLD WARNING SYSTEM

Dear MR. PERLMAN:

This letter serves to acknowledge National Van Builders, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a noncompliance with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 404, "Platform Lift Installations in Motor Vehicles," 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:
NATIONAL VAN/ECONOLINE/2005-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-125 **Mfg's Report Date:** March 11, 2008

Components: EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 43

Summary:
NATIONAL VAN BUILDERS IS RECALLING 43 MY 2005-2008 ECONOLINE VANS EQUIPPED WITH RICON PLATFORM STYLE WHEELCHAIR LIFTS. THESE VANS FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 404, "PLATFORM LIFT INSTALLATIONS IN MOTOR VEHICLES." THE THRESHOLD WARNING SYSTEM MAY NOT DETECT THE PRESENCE OF A WHEELCHAIR OR MOBILITY AID USER IN A CERTAIN SPOT WITHIN THE DEFINED THRESHOLD AREA.

Consequence:
THE USER OF THE LIFT COULD BE INJURED SHOULD THE LIFT MOVE UNINTENTIONALLY.

Remedy:
RICON IS HANDLING THE REMEDY FOR THIS CAMPAIGN (PLEASE SEE 07E095). RICON WILL CORRECT THE WHEELCHAIR LIFT FREE OF CHARGE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT RICON AT 818-267-3000 OR NATIONAL VAN BUILDERS AT 800-527-7477.

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.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577. However, please revise your owner letters to include the following updated NHTSA hotline information: "…the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 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."

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 your report, Ricon will be handling the owner notification, 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 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,

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