



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 24, 2008

MR. CHARLES E. KOSKE
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT ENGINEERING
GILLIG CORPORATION
PO BOX 3008
HAYWARD CA 94545

NVS-215dgl
08V-175

Subject: TRANSVERSE BEAM/SAF-HOLLAND

Dear MR. KOSKE:

This letter serves to acknowledge Gillig Corporation'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:
GILLIG/LOW FLOOR/2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-175

Mfg's Report Date: April 11, 2008

Components: SUSPENSION

Potential Number of Units Affected: 31

Summary:

GILLIG IS RECALLING 31 MY 2007 29 FOOT LOW FLOOR TRANSIT BUSES EQUIPPED WITH SAF-HOLLAND ADL SERIES REAR SUSPENSIONS. IN SOME INSTANCES THE TRANSVERSE BEAM WAS NOT PROPERLY WELDED WHICH COULD RESULT IN A FAILURE OF THE WELD.

Consequence:

IF THE WELD FAILS, VEHICLE STABILITY WHILE CORNERING COULD BE AFFECTED RESULTING IN LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN A CRASH. IN ADDITION, THE TRANSVERSE BEAM COULD DROP TO THE GROUND CAUSING SPARKS THAT COULD CAUSE A FIRE HAZARD.

Remedy:

GILLIG IS WORKING WITH SAF-HOLLAND TO HAVE A VISUAL INSPECTION OF THE ADL TRANSVERSE BEAM PERFORMED. IF A WELD DEFECT IS IDENTIFIED, SAF-HOLLAND WILL PROVIDE A SERVICE REPLACEMENT KIT THAT CONTAINS A NEW TRANSVERSE BEAM, ALL NECESSARY INSTALLATION HARDWARE, BEAM REPLACEMENT, AND INSTRUCTIONS FREE OF CHARGE (PLEASE SEE 08E031). THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT GILLIG AT 1-510-264-5031 AND SAF-HOLLAND AT 1-231-773-3271.

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:

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

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, SAF-Holland 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 SAF Holland'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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Wallace for".

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