



U.S. Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

May 29, 2008

MR. WILFRIED GEENS
COMPLIANCE AND REGULATIONS
VAN HOOLS N.V.
BERNARD VAN HOOLSTRAAT 58
B-2500 LIER KONINGSHOOIKT
BELGIUM 00 B2500

NVS-215dgl
08V-237

Subject: WINDSHIELD WIPER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM/DOGA

Dear MR. GEENS:

This letter serves to acknowledge Van Hool'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:

VAN HOOL/C2045/2004-2007
VAN HOOL/T2140/2004-2007
VAN HOOL/T2145/2004-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-237

Mfg's Report Date: May 26, 2008

Components: VISIBILITY: WINDSHIELD WIPER/WASHER:LINKAGES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 149

Summary:

VAN HOOL IS RECALLING 149 MY 2004-2007 C2045, T2140, AND T2145 BUSES EQUIPPED WITH DOGA WINDSHIELD WIPER SYSTEMS. LINKAGES WERE POORLY FINISHED. THIS COULD LEAD TO A MISALIGNMENT OF THE WINDSHIELD WIPER SYSTEM, BLOCKING THE MOTOR.

Consequence:

FAILURE OF THE WIPER LINKAGES WILL LEAD TO WIPER SYSTEM BREAKDOWN. THE OPERATOR WILL HAVE REDUCED VISIBILITY WHICH COULD RESULT IN A CRASH.

Remedy:

VAN HOOL IS WORKING WITH DOGA AND DOGA WILL REPLACE THE WIPER MOTOR FREE OF CHARGE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT VAN HOOL (ABC COMPANIES) AT 1-407-656-7977.

Notes:

VAN HOOL RECALL NO. 1213. 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).

This recall was the subject of a Preliminary Evaluation, PE08-023, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

Please provide us with a contact representative of DOGA along with their title, address and telephone number.

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, DOGA 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 DOGA'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