



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 25, 2008

MR. JIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR, FIELD SERVICE
NABI/OPTIMA/BLUE-BIRD TRANSIT
NORTH AMERICAN BUS INDUSTRIES, INC.
106 NATIONAL DRIVE
ANNISTON, AL 36207

NVS-215paw
08V-278

SUBJECT: FMVSS 121/INSTRUMENT CLUSTER ELECTRIC SIGNAL

DEAR MR. JOHNSON:

This letter serves to acknowledge North American Bus Industries, Inc.'s (NABI) 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:

BLUE BIRD/C4RE/2002-2007

BLUE BIRD/L4RE/2002-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-278

Mfg's Report Date: June 19, 2008

Components: ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: INSTRUMENT PANEL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 239

Summary:

NABI IS RECALLING 239 MY 2002-2007 BLUE BIRD C4RE AND L4RE TRANSIT BUSES EQUIPPED WITH A 'PRX1' MODULE. THE PRX1 MODULE IS A DEVICE WHICH TRANSMITS AN ELECTRIC SIGNAL TO THE INSTRUMENT CLUSTER, WHICH IS CONVERTED INTO AN AIR SYSTEM PRESSURE READING ON THE DASH MOUNTED GAUGE. ON CERTAIN MODULES, THIS READING IS INACCURATE CAUSING THE DISPLAYED PRESSURE TO BE OUTSIDE THE TOLERANCE OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 121, "AIR BRAKE SYSTEMS."

Consequence:

IF THE AIR BRAKE SYSTEM DEVELOPS A LEAK, THE VEHICLE OPERATOR MAY NOT BE AWARE DUE TO THE INACCURATE DASH READING. IF A LEAK OCCURS, THE SAFETY/EMERGENCY BRAKES COULD SET WITHOUT ADEQUATE WARNING, APPLYING THE BRAKES PARTIALLY, WHICH COULD RESULT IN LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL, POSSIBLY CAUSING A CRASH.

Remedy:

NABI WILL PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS TO VEHICLE OWNERS/END-USERS TO ADD A SPECIFIC WIRE TO THE MODULE, CORRECTING THE PROBLEM. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JULY 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT NABI AT 1-256-831-4296.

Notes:

NABI RECALL NO. 2008-02. 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 except for the following items:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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).

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 black ink, appearing to be 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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