



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 3, 2008

MR. JOE LABONTE
PRODUCT SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER
DAIMLER BUSES NORTH AMERICA LLC
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE
PORTLAND OR 97217-7699

NVS -215dgl
08V-480

SUBJECT: ALTERNATOR CABLE

DEAR MR. LABONTE:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Buses North America 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:

ORION/V/2007-2008
ORION/VII/2004-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-480

Mfg's Report Date: September 26, 2008

Components: ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING: ENGINE: DIESEL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 175

Summary:

DAIMLER BUSES IS RECALLING 175 MY 2004-2008 ORION VII, AND MY 2007-2008 ORION V BUSES EQUIPPED WITH CUMMINS ISL DIESEL ENGINES. DUE TO VARIOUS ALTERNATOR CABLE ROUTING CONFIGURATIONS IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR THE CABLE TO RUB ON ENGINE COMPONENTS.

Consequence:

WHEN THE CABLE RUBBING IS NOT DETECTED DURING REGULAR MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS, THE INSULATION CAN RUB TO EXPOSE THE ELECTRIFIED CABLE. ARCING CAN CAUSE A FIRE TO OCCUR.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REROUTE THE ALTERNATOR CABLE TO ENSURE THAT THE CABLE DOES NOT CONTACT ENGINE COMPONENTS. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DAIMLER BUSES AT 1-800-547-0712.

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.

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

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).

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,



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