



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

November 24, 2008

MR. PAUL MURPHY
DIRECTOR, REGULATORY COMPLIANCE
MOTOR COACH INDUSTRIES LTD.
1475 CLARENCE AVENUE
WINNIPEG, MB
CANADA R5T 1T5

NVS-215dgl
08V-603

Subject: SHIFTER INDICATOR INTERFERENCE/ZF

Dear MR. MURPHY:

This letter serves to acknowledge Motor Coach Industries Ltd.' 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:

MCI/D4005/2002-2008
MCI/D4505/2002-2008
MCI/E4500/2001-2008
MCI/J4500/2001-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-603

Mfg's Report Date: November 7, 2008

Components: EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,893

Summary:

MCI IS RECALLING 1,893 MY 2002-2008 D4005, D4505, AND MY 2001-2008 E4500, AND J4500 MOTOR COACHES EQUIPPED WITH ZF TRANSMISSIONS. THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR THE SHIFT SELECTOR TO MALFUNCTION AS A RESULT OF A CELL PHONE OR RADIO BEING PLACED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE SHIFTER CONTROL PAD.

\Consequence:

WHEN THIS HAPPENS, THE SHIFT SELECTOR MAY MOVE INTO REVERSE WITHOUT DRIVER KNOWLEDGE INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

MCI IS WORKING WITH ZF AND HAS CREATED A SOFTWARE UPDATE THAT PROTECTS AGAINST THE POTENTIAL FOR TRANSIENT ANALOG OR DIGITAL SIGNAL INTERFERENCE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT MCI AT 1-800-333-0371 AND ZF AT 1-734-416-6200.

Notes:

MCI RECALL NO. 308. 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).

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it does not meet all the requirements of Part 577.

Please change the second paragraph to read: "Motor Coach Industries, Inc. (MCI) has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2002-2008 D4005 and D4505, and certain MY 2001-2008 E4500 and J4500 coaches equipped with the ZF ASTRONIC transmissions. This decision was based on information provided by ZF Friedrichshafen AG."

We would also like you to add a risk at the end of the last sentence of the third paragraph, i.e., "When this happens, the shift selector may move into reverse without driver knowledge increasing the risk of a crash."

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

Please provide us with the beginning and ending dates for the build date range of motor coaches affected by this recall.

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.

MCI must file a sample of the envelope which you intend to use to mail the recall notice to owners. The words “SAFETY”, “RECALL”, “NOTICE” in any order must be printed on the envelope in larger font than the customers name and address.

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 read "G. Person", written in a cursive style.

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