



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 4, 2008

MR. PHIL POLIZZATTO  
PRESIDENT  
CANYON STATE BUS SALES  
3133 WEST WELDON AVENUE  
PHOENIX, AZ 85017

NVS-215kjs  
08V-631

SUBJECT: ANTI-STOW INTERLOCK/FMVSS 404/RICON

DEAR MR. POLIZZATTO:

This letter serves to acknowledge Canyon State Bus Sales' notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 404, "Platform Lift Installations in Motor Vehicles" 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/A3FE/2005  
BLUE BIRD/A3FE/2007

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 08V-631

**Mfg's Report Date:** November 20, 2008

**Components:** EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2

**Summary:**

CANYON STATE BUS SALES IS RECALLING 2 RICON WHEELCHAIR LIFTS WHICH IT INSTALLED ON CERTAIN BLUE BIRD SPECIAL NEED SCHOOL BUSES, MODEL A3FE. THESE LIFTS FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 404, "PLATFORM LIFT SYSTEMS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES." THE ANTI-STOW INTERLOCK MAY NOT DETECT THE PRESENCE OF A WHEELCHAIR OR

MOBILITY AID USER. THE PRESSURE SENSING SWITCH THAT DETECTS THE PRESENCE OF WEIGHT ON THE PLATFORM WAS NOT ADJUSTED TO THE NECESSARY SENSITIVITY LEVEL. THE LIFT COULD STOW EVEN THOUGH SOMEONE OR SOMETHING IS STILL ON THE LIFT.

**Consequence:**

THE USER OF THE LIFT COULD BE INJURED SHOULD THE LIFT MOVE UNINTENTIONALLY.

**Remedy:**

CANYON STATE BUS SALES IS WORKING WITH RICON TO CORRECT THE WHEELCHAIR LIFTS FREE OF CHARGE (PLEASE SEE 07E097). OWNERS MAY CONTACT RICON AT 1-818-267-3000 OR CANYON STATE BUS SALES AT 1-602-230-1515.

**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).

This recall was the subject of an Equipment Query, EQ08-011, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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

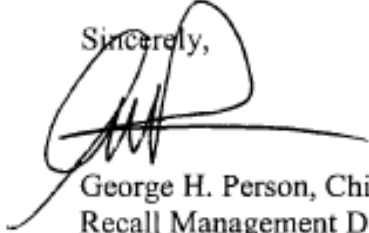
You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification 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).

Canyon State Bus Sales 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.

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 close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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