



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 8, 2008

MS. GERI BROWN
VICE PRESIDENT
MOBILITY TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
42000 KOPPERNICK #A3
CANTON MI 48187

NVS-215dgl
08V-636

SUBJECT: THRESHOLD WARNING SYSTEM/FMVSS 404/RICON

DEAR MS. BROWN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Mobility Transportation Services' (MTS) 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:

MTS/E11/2006

MTS/S31/2006

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-636

Mfg's Report Date: November 21, 2008

Components: EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 2

Summary:

MOBILITY TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (MTS) IS RECALLING 2 MY 2006 E11 AND S31 VANS BUILT ON FORD CHASSIS AND EQUIPPED WITH RICON PLATFORM STYLE WHEELCHAIR LIFTS. THESE VEHICLES FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 404, "PLATFORM LIFT INSTALLATIONS IN MOTOR VEHICLES." THE THRESHOLD WARNING SYSTEM MAY NOT DETECT THE PRESENCE OF A WHEELCHAIR OR MOBILITY AID USER IN A CERTAIN SPOT WITHIN THE DEFINED THRESHOLD AREA.

Consequence:

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

Remedy:

MTS IS WORKING WITH RICON TO CORRECT THE WHEELCHAIR LIFTS FREE OF CHARGE (PLEASE SEE 07E095). OWNERS MAY CONTACT RICON AT 1-818-267-3000 OR MTS AT 1-734-453-6452.

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.

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

The second paragraph should read: "Mobility Transportation Services has decided that certain model year 2006-2007 E11, S24, and S31 vans built on Ford chassis and equipped with Ricon platform style wheelchair lifts fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 404, "Platform Lift Installations in Motor Vehicles."

Under “**Why is a recall being conducted?**” please change “FMVSS 403” to “FMVSS 404”.

A sentence needs to be added concerning leased vehicles, i.e., “Federal regulations require that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.”

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).

MTS 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.

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.

As stated in your report, Ricon will be handling the 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 Ricon’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,



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