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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.



**Headquarters
& Manufacturing**
North American
Bus Industries, Inc.
106 National Drive
Anniston, AL 36207

Tel: (256) 831-4296
Fax: (256) 831-4299
Email: nabiusa@nabiusa.com
www.nabiusa.com

December 19, 2007

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
NHTSA
ODI/Recall Management Division – NVS-215
Room W46-425
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

**08V-004
(4 pages)**

Subject: NABI Safety Recall #2007-03

Dear Sir:

Attached is a vehicle defect initial information report which is submitted pursuant to Parts 573.5, 151 (1), and 153 (1-6) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall.

Very truly yours,

North American Bus Industries (NABI)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Johnson", written over a horizontal line.

Jim Johnson
Director, Service and Warranty
NABI/Optima/Blue-Bird Transit

Enclosures

VEHICLE DEFECT
INITIAL INFORMATION REPORT

MANUFACTURED DATES

MAKE	MODEL	MODEL YEAR	NUMBER OF VEHICLES	FROM	THROUGH	OTHER IDENTIFICATION NECESSARY DESCRIBE VEHICLE
NABI	60BRT	2006	92	Aug-06	Apr-07	Certain 60' articulated trans buses equipped with a Hübner articulation joint.

Total number of vehicles: 92 Percent Potentially Containing Defect: 100%

**VEHICLE DEFECT
INITIAL INFORMATION REPORT**

DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:

On certain articulated 60' transit buses, certain main castings supplied by Hübner may be subject to premature fracture.

RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY:

If the casting fractures, loss of vehicle control could occur resulting in an accident.

1) CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF DEFECT:

- a. In or around May 2007, Hübner advised they were suspect of units based on initial results of lab testing of a similar configuration.
 - b. In or around June 2007, Hübner inspected approximately 25 suspect units in-service and found no issues.
 - c. In or about July 2007, Hübner advised a plan to have another suspect unit tested at a different location.
 - d. In or about October 2007, Hübner advised the additional testing was delayed due to complexity of test and equipment.
 - d. December 2007, Hübner advised they would replace the suspect castings in lieu of additional testing.
 - e. On December 19, 2007, NABI initiated this recall to NHTSA.
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2) MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO REPAIR VEHICLE:

NABI will coordinate with end-users for the replacement of the suspect units.
In the interim, inspections of the units for possible damage should occur during normal, routine inspection intervals.

3) REMEDY EXPENSE:

There will be no cost to the end-user for this replacement.

4) EARLIEST DATE TO BE REMEDIED:

Material is expected to be available in the first calendar quarter of 2008.

**VEHICLE DEFECT
INITIAL INFORMATION REPORT**

5) PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT DATE:

There will be no public announcement.

6) OWNER LETTER/QUARTERLY REPORTS:

NABI will issue the appropriate owner letter and will report quarterly to NHTSA. First draft of owner letter to NHTSA is planned for submission on or before January 15, 2008, or within 20 calendar days of NHTSA acknowledgement of this recall, whichever is earlier.
