

**millennium**  
TRANSIT SERVICES, LLC

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2008 MAR 25 - 2:00 PM  
OFFICE OF RECALL  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

March 24, 2008

08V-138  
(5 Pages)

Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590


Re: Defect and Noncompliance Report per 49 C.F.R. 573

Dear Administrator,

Millennium Transit Services, LLC has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Please review the attached report and contact my office if you need additional information.

Best Regards,



Jimmy Stout  
Director of Aftermarket Services  
575-347-7534 – office  
575-347-7504 – fax  
jstout@millenniumtransit.com

cc: Bill Beyerle - MTS

42 Earl Cummings Loop West, Roswell, NM 88203  
505.347.7504

Telephone: 505.347.7500 Fax:

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**

On March 20, 2008, Millennium Transit Services, LLC decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: 3/25/2008

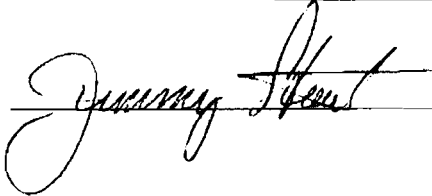
Manufacturer's identification code for this recall: 08-001

Manufacturer's full corporate name and mailing address: Millennium Transit Services, LLC  
42 Earl Cummings Loop West  
Roswell, NM 88203

For information regarding this recall, please contact: Jimmy Stout  
Director of Aftermarket Services  
575-347-7534 – office  
575-347-7504 – fax  
jstout@millenniumtransit.com

This report was prepared by: Jimmy Stout  
Director of Aftermarket Services

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jimmy Stout", is written over a horizontal line.

Make: Millennium Transit Services, LLC

Model Years Involved: 2006

Model: R80THN

Production Dates: Beginning: March 2006 Ending: March 2008

Vehicle Type: Transit Bus (40 feet long, 102 inches wide)

The vehicles affected by this recall are typically referred to as the RTS transit bus which is manufactured by Millennium Transit Services, LLC in Roswell, New Mexico. To date, Millennium Transit Services, LLC has manufactured thirty (30) vehicles.

Twenty-three (23) vehicles have been delivered to customers and are affected by this recall which represents seventy-seven (77) percent of the total number of vehicles manufactured by Millennium Transit Services, LLC. The remaining 7 vehicles have been corrected during manufacture.

As the defective component could have been installed on the first unit manufactured, Millennium Transit Services, LLC decided it would be best to replace the component on all units manufactured to date and implement the corrective action on units to be manufactured in the future.

The component affected by this recall is the steering miter box bracket. This bracket is mounted on a structural beam below the driver and holds the miter gear which connects the steering column to the steering shaft and steering gear.

The welds on this bracket were inspected by Millennium Transit Services, LLC Quality Assurance Department and the determination was made that the welds did not meet the qualifications required on the engineering drawing.

Though there have been no failures or problems with the brackets that are currently in service, Millennium Transit Services, LLC believes that the pro-active approach is to replace the brackets as quickly as possible. Should there be a failure of the welds holding this bracket together, the result would be a loss of steering or control of the vehicle.

On March 20, 2008 the Millennium Transit Services, LLC Quality Assurance Department tested the welds on the miter box bracket because the welds were smaller in size than what the engineering drawing called for. Quality Assurance personnel performed a destructive test to the welds on the miter box bracket which revealed that the welds could crack under severe conditions.

To date, there have been no failures, accidents, injuries, fatalities or warranty claims associated with the miter box bracket, however, Millennium Transit Services, LLC believes that a pro-active replacement program will address any concerns associated with this recall.

Millennium Transit Services, LLC has implemented a corrective action for all units that have not yet been delivered to customers by adding the proper welds to the brackets as specified on the engineering drawing. In addition to the units not yet delivered, Millennium Transit Services, LLC has also welded twenty-three (23) miter box brackets to be shipped to customers

immediately. These miter box brackets can be identified by the size of the welds in each of the four (4) joints where welds are specified and are packaged and ready for shipment.

The corrective action implemented by Millennium Transit Services, LLC is the same for units that have already been delivered to customers, those that are still in the production facility and those yet to be produced.

Millennium Transit Services, LLC will begin shipment of replacement parts and bulletins to customers on March 31, 2008 with directions for replacement and reimbursement.

A draft copy of the bulletin that will be used to notify Millennium Transit Services, LLC customers is provided with this report.



<b>MODEL:</b> RTS Buses As Indicated	<b>TYPE:</b> Safety Recall Information	<b>SECTION/GROUP:</b> Steering Miter Gear (Sec. 9H)	<b>DATE:</b> Mar. 24, 2008
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Welds in Miter Gear Mounting Bracket			
<b>CONDITIONS:</b> Contact your RTS Service Representative for more information.			

**Description:**

Routine production quality control inspection has shown suspect welds in some miter gear mounting brackets as received from the vendor.

<b>Bracket Assembly P/N</b>	<b>Description</b>
C1950003	Bracket ASM, Miter Box

**Corrective Action:**

As a precautionary measure, the factory will provide new, inspected brackets for all buses delivered to the customers listed in Table 1 below. This bulletin accompanies those replacement parts. Labor charges for removing existing brackets and installing new brackets should be filed through the warranty claim system, referencing this campaign bulletin number.

Any questions regarding this safety recall should be directed to your RTS service representative.

**Table 1 – List of Affected Buses by Serial Number, Customer Bus Number and Customer Name**

1M91C11A66R715004	4024	SOMERSET
1M93C11A76R715005	4025	SOMERSET
1M91C11A16R715007	106	PUEBLO
1M91C11A36R715008	206	PUEBLO
1M91C11A56R715009	4103	FOXWOODS
1M91C11A16R715010	4104	FOXWOODS
1M91C11A36R715011	4105	FOXWOODS
1M91C11A56R715012	4106	FOXWOODS
1M91C11A76R715013	4107	FOXWOODS
1M91C11A96R715014	620	TAMU
1M91C11A06R715015	621	TAMU
1M91C11A26R715016	622	TAMU
1M91C11A46R715017	623	TAMU
1M91C11A66R715018	624	TAMU
1M91C11A86R715019	625	TAMU
1M91C11A46R715020	626	TAMU
1M91C11A66R715021	627	TAMU
1M91C11A86R715022	628	TAMU
1M91C11AX6R715023	629	TAMU
1M91C11A16R715024	630	TAMU
1M91C11A36R715025	631	TAMU
1M91C11A56R715026	632	TAMU
1M91C11A76R715027	633	TAMU

**Additional Information:**

Removal and replacement of the miter gear mounting bracket is straightforward and requires no special tools. Always use safe shop practices and observe the following torque values when refitting hardware. Hardware is supplied with the replacement brackets:

<b>Fastener Description</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Torque Required</b>
Bracket to Miter Gear Retaining Nut	3/8-16, Prevailing Torque, Waxed	21 lb-ft
Bracket to Longitudinal Beam Nut	1/2-13, Prevailing Torque, Waxed	51 lb-ft

Do not reuse prevailing torque fasteners. Discard used nuts and secure the miter gear bracket with new prevailing torque hardware.