

July 9, 2008

VIA E-MAIL
RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED

08V-326
(4 Pages)

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Champion Bus
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Champion Bus has decided that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the buses listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The recall population includes the following buses manufactured by Champion Bus.

<u>Models</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
Defender	2007, 2008
International High Floor	2007, 2008, 2009
International Low Floor	2007
CTS-RE	2007
International American Coach	2008

These buses were manufactured by Champion Bus from July 12, 2007 until July 1, 2008.

The total number of buses subject to this recall campaign is 68.

- B. Description of Defect. Nut fasteners that are used to hold electrical connectors in place on the Trans Air roof mounted air conditioner control panel are not tightened down to the proper torque value and/or there is a possible frayed wire at the connection point. If these connections are loose it could result in the connections overheating and causing a fire. The fire may cause property and or personal injury.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Champion Bus was notified by a customer that it had a fire on a bus. As a result of the fire investigation, it was determined that a loose electrical connection and/or frayed wire at the air conditioning EC-3 control panel was the cause of the fire.

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- D. Remedying of Defect. The owners of the buses subject to this recall campaign will be advised to contact Champion to have the electrical connections inspected. If found to be loose, the connections will be tightened to the proper torque value. The remedy will be done at no charge to the owners of the bus.
- E. Owner Notifications. Champion Bus will contact the owners of the affected buses. A copy of the owner's letter is attached for your review.
- F. Dealer Notification Champion Bus will notify all of its dealers of the recall and provide them instructions on how to remedy the recall. The dealer's letter is attached for your review.
- G. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Champion Bus will file quarterly reports as required.
- H. Campaign Number. Champion Bus does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Champion Bus will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Champion Bus with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Champion Bus in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363 or Champion Bus at 810-724-6474.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries, Standards Compliance Manager

Safety Recall Campaign

DATE: July 2008

TO: Owner
Address
City, State Zip Code

VIN:

SUBJECT: NHTSA Recall No. 08V-XXX

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

Champion Bus has decided that certain model year 2007, 2008 and 2009 buses contain a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety. Nut fasteners that are used to hold electrical connectors in place on the Trans Air roof mounted air conditioner system may not be tightened down to the proper torque and/or there may be a possible frayed wire at the connection point. If these connections are loose, it could result in overheating and cause a fire. A fire may cause property and or personal injury.

WHAT WE WILL DO

A Champion Bus Dealer will inspect the nuts connection on the electrical control board and tighten them down to the proper torque value if they are found to be loose.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

Please contact your Champion Bus dealer to arrange to have your bus inspected. If you are having trouble locating or scheduling an appointment with your local Champion Bus Dealer, please contact the Champion Bus Customer Service Department at 1-810-724-1753 ex. 561.

If, after contacting your dealer and the Champion Bus Customer Service Department, you are still having trouble getting your vehicle remedied or there has been an unreasonable delay in securing repairs, you may submit a complaint to: Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave, Washington, DC 20590 or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline toll free at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>. Federal Regulations require any lessor receiving this letter to forward it to the lessee within 10 days.

Your safety and satisfaction with your Champion Bus product are important to us and we regret any inconvenience that this recall may have caused.

Sincerely,

Dick Cutcher



GENERAL COACH

America, Inc.

Thor Industries Commercial Bus Division



CHAMPION

BUS, INC.

Thor Industries Commercial Bus Division

**TO: General Coach America, Inc. Dealers
Champion Bus, Inc. Dealers**

FROM: Service and Parts Department

DATE:

SUBJECT: Trans Air Roof Mount Recall

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

Champion Bus has decided that certain model year 2007, 2008 and 2009 buses contain a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety. Nut fasteners that are used to hold electrical connectors in place on the Trans Air roof mounted air conditioner system may not be tightened down to the proper torque and/or there may be a possible frayed wire at the connection point. If these connections are loose, it could result in overheating and cause a fire. A fire may cause property and or personal injury.

RANGE OF VEHICLES INVOLVED:

Defender	2007, 2008
International High Floor	2007, 2008, 2009
International Low Floor	2007
CTS-RE	2007
International American Coach	2008

WARRANTY REIMBURSEMENT:

A notice of this recall has been sent to affected retail owners. A copy of the Owner's letter is included for your review. They may request that you complete the repair. If so, please follow the warranty reimbursement procedure. If the unit and/or units are in your inventory, or if you are requested to perform the repair for the retail customer, please complete the advised repair and send in a warranty claim referencing this recall number for reimbursement.

Sincerely,

Dick Cutcher