

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹

On November 1, 2007 Matthews Specialty Vehicles [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 403) 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 Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: October 2, 2008

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 07E-095

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Matthews Specialty Vehicles, 101 South Swing Road, Greensboro, NC. 27409

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, which the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Chris Chaney / Warranty and Customer Support / Matthews Specialty Vehicles / 101 South Swing Road / Greensboro, NC. 27409

Telephone Number: 336-297-9600 x 213 Fax No.: 336-297-4674

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Chris Chaney

Warranty and Customer Support

Signed:

RECEIVED
2008 OCTOBER 8 - 1:30 PM
OFFICE OF RECALL
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210, by FAX at (202) 366-7882, or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Bluebird **Model Years Involved:** 1998 **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 2005 **Ending:** 2005

VIN Range: Beginning: 1BAAGC5A6WFD78208 **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: Girl Scouts **Body style:** Bluebird

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): Ford E450/ **Model Years Involved:** 2004 **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 2004 **Ending:** 2004

VIN Range: Beginning: 1FDXE45P84HA67574 **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: Book hauler **Body style:** Utilimaster

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): Thomas Built Bus **Model Years Involved:** 2005 **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 2005 **Ending:** 2005

VIN Range: Beginning: 1T88U2C2151161361 **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: Book mobile **Body style:** Thomas

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): Thomas Built Bus **Model Years Involved:** 2006 **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 2006 **Ending:** 2006

VIN Range: Beginning: 1T8UX0B2181192822 **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: Medical Clinic **Body style:** Mickey

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): International Model Years Involved: 2006 Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 2006 Ending: 2006

VIN Range: Beginning: 4KAANAAR27A347948 Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: Book Mobile Body style: International

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): Chevrolet 5500 Model Years Involved: 2007 Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 2007 Ending: 2007

VIN Range: Beginning: 1GBG5V1287F416368 Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: Book Mobile Body style: Utilimaster

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): Freightliner Model Years Involved: 2007 Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 2007 Ending: 2007

VIN Range: Beginning: 4UZAAPDU38CZ50317 Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: Book Mobile Body style: Morgan Olson

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): Dodge Model Years Involved: 2007 Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: 2007 Ending: 2007

VIN Range: Beginning: WD0PF445875209274 Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: Book Mobile Body style: Sprinter

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Vehicles equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Vehicles of all Vehicles manufactured during that time period?

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

<u>Model</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</u>
Bluebird	1998	1
Ford E450	2004	1
Thomas Built Bus	2005-2006	2
International Bus	2006	1
Chevrolet 5500	2007	1
Freightliner	2007	1
Dodge Sprinter	2007	1

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 8 units

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

Ricon MFG. sent us list of affected units by serial number, model number, and purchase order number.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

07E-095 / The Threshold Warning System may not detect the presence of a "wheelchair test device" when tested in accordance with S7.4 of the FMVSS 403.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

07E-095/ Results from misinterpretation of the testing parameters.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

07E-095 / The threshold warning signal may not activate when a certain point on the threshold area is encroached.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

07E-095 / With the platform one inch or more below vehicle floor level, the Threshold Warning System will activate when a wheelchair or individual using a mobility aid enters the designated Threshold area but may deactivate if the wheelchair or mobility aid user continues to move toward a certain point on the threshold area

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Ricon Corporation, A Division of Vapor Bus International, 7900 Nelson Road, Panorama City, CA.91402

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Billy McCoy, Manager of Customer Support

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims. N/A

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

NHTSA Compliance Report #638657A and NHTSA-2007-28140 Notice 1 formed the basis for Ricon Corporation's determination of noncompliance. There have been no claims, accidents, injuries or fatalities associated with both noncompliances.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

07E-095 / Replacement of the Threshold Warning System metal covers and optical sensor mounting retainers will correct the noncompliance. Ricon will provide a kit for field replacement at no charge.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly

07E-095 / The replacement parts can be distinguished from the recall components by the location of the openings in the cover where the optical sensors are located. The remedy components will have openings spaced 5.25 inches apart while recall components will have openings spaced 7 inches apart.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

07E-095 / The recall condition was corrected in production on all lifts manufactured after October 9, 2007.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Matthews Specialty Vehicles will contact customers as soon as we receive approval from NHTSA.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

11. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov for review prior to mailing.

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.