

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports<sup>1</sup>**

On November 1, 2007, Ricon Corporation decided that 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: November 6, 2008

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall : 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.**

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

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

Stanton Saucier / General Mgr. PH:818-267-3016 FAX:818-267-3187 ssaucier@wabtec.com  
William Hinze / Dir. of Marketing PH: 818-267-3012 FAX: 818-267-3139 bhinze@wabtec.com

**Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.**

Duane England / Warehouse Mgr.  
Farber Specialty Vehicles  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 614-863-6470

**Signed:**

RECEIVED  
2008 NOVEMBER 14 – 10:00 AM  
OFFICE OF RECALL  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

<sup>1</sup> 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/Model/Type	Year	Sale date	Stock Number	Chassis Serial #	Wheelchair Lift
1	WFG31S/Ford/License exam	2005	7/28/2005	15092	1F6NF53S840	Ricon S5505 s/n 00185739
2	WFG38S/Workhorse/Computer	2005	9/12/2005	15119	5B4MP67G053	Ricon S5500 s/n 00196134
3	Freightliner MT55/UCBC/Computer	2005	6/15/2006	15139	4UZAARBWX5	Ricon S5505 s/n 00194059
4	Chevrolet C5500/Supreme/Bookmobile	2006	2/28/2006	15148	1GBE5C3646F	Ricon S5505 s/n 00194530
5	Ford/WFF36S/ Medical	2006	6/9/2006	15154	1F6NF53YX60	Ricon S5505 s/n 00190979
6	WFG38S/Ford/Computer	2005	6/30/2006	15172	1F6NF53Y260	Ricon S5505 s/n 00190980
7	WFG38S/Ford/Computer	2005	6/21/2006	15175	1F6NF53Y960	Ricon S5505 s/n 00194058
8	WFG38S/Ford/Computer	2005	2/14/2006	15176	1F6NF53Y860	Ricon S5505 s/n 00190985
9	WFG35S/Ford/Computer Lab	2005	11/28/2005	15182	1F6NF53Y660	Ricon S5505 s/n 00190976
10	Workhorse/WFG35S/Computer lab	2005	10/31/2005	15183	5B4MP67G153	Ricon S5505 s/n 00191120
11	WFG38S FORD No slideout.	2005	6/28/2006	15190	1F6NF53Y460	Ricon S5505 s/n 00200089
12	WFG38S/Ford/	2005	11/28/2006	15191	1F6NF53Y660	Ricon S5505 s/n 00190981
13	WIN WFF31S Ford License Exam	2006	7/7/2006	15211	1F6NF53Y960	Ricon S5505 s/n 00200090
14	WIN WFF31S Ford License Exam #3	2006	7/11/2006	15212	1F6NF53Y060	Ricon S5505 s/n 00196133
15	XC-S Chassis 190" Wheelbase Library	2007	8/31/2006	15213	4UZACJDC071	Ricon S5505 s/n 00194529
16	MT-55 *24956 UTILIMASTER CUMMINS	2006	9/26/2006	15228	4UZAASBV261	Ricon S5505 s/n 00202394
17	Stock 38' Win/FORD WPF38S	2006	8/11/2006	15232	1F6NF53Y460	Ricon S5505 s/n 00202000
18	WPF38S WIN./FORD Computer Demo.	2006	8/1/2007	15242	1F6NF53Y760	Ricon S5505 s/n 00209798
19	WIN/FORD 38' No slide,no door.	2006	6/1/2007	15243	1F6NF53YX60	Ricon S5505 s/n 00209599
20	Stock Win. 38' No slide.	2006	1/22/2007	15244	1F6NF53Y360	Ricon S5505 s/n 00202396
21	WIN. WPF38S FORD CHASSIS	2006	10/10/2006	15253	1F6NF53Y260	Ricon S5505 s/n 00202001
22	WIN. WPF38S FORD CHASSIS	2006	3/8/2007	15254	1F6NF53YX60	Ricon S5505 s/n 00203385
23	53' STRICK SEMI TRAILER	2007	12/4/2006	15256	1S12E95397E	Ricon S5505 s/n 00202401
24	2007 33' WIN/FORD	2007	1/26/2007	15261	1F6NF53Y760	Ricon S5505 s/n 00209793
25	20' SUPREME FORD GAS E-450	2006	3/22/2007	15263	1FDXE45S46L	Ricon S5505 s/n 00202379
26	20' SUPREME FORD GAS SD E-450	2006	2/27/2007	15264	1FDXE45S66L	Ricon S5505 s/n 00209784
27	30' UTIL/FL CUMMINS DIESEL	2007	9/5/2007	15279	4UZAASBV171	Ricon S5505 s/n 00215220
28	WFF38S WIN/FORD COMP. LAB	2007	9/19/2007	15331	1F6NF53Y570	Ricon S5505 s/n 00215263
29	STOCK WFF38S WIN./COMP. LAB	2007	7/19/2007	15332	1F6NF53Y970	Ricon S5505 s/n 00215267
30	38' WINNEBAGO/FORD/COMMAND	2008	11/3/2007	15356	1F6NF53YX70	Ricon S5505 s/n 00220923
31	WIN/FORD 38' NO SLIDE	2008	11/7/2007	15357	1F6NF53Y670	Ricon S5505 s/n 00214875
32	38' WIN/FORD COMP LAB	2008	11/8/2007	15364	1F6NF53YX70	Ricon S5505 s/n 00220929
33	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ricon S5505 s/n 00209800

**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.**

100% of the vehicles manufactured with Ricon S5505 wheelchair lifts between July 2005-Nov.2007.

**II. Identify the Recall Population**

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

<b>Model</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved</b>
<u>See above list.</u>		

**Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:** 32

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

100% of the vehicles manufactured with Ricon S5505 wheelchair lifts between July 2005-Nov.2007.

**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 Corporation issued recall number 07E-095. The wheelchair lifts were identified according to the serial numbers provided.

### **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.**

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.**

Results from misinterpretation of the testing parameters.

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

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.**

With the lift platform on 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.**

N/A

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

N/A

#### **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 Test 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 this noncompliance.

#### **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.**

Information not provided by Ricon

**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.**

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.**

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.**

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.**

Ricon Corporation anticipates the recall campaign will begin December 31, 2007. At that time, manufacturers and dealers will be notified of their responsibilities in coordinating the campaign and making remedies to the recall population.

#### **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.**

These documents were previously sent to NHTSA.