

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

On JUNE 23, ²⁰⁰⁸2007, RICON [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: December 8, 2008

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 07E-097

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
Texas Bus Sales Inc. P.O. BOX 10213 Houston, TX 77206

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

<u>Stanton Saucier</u>	<u>Oscar Pardiñas</u>	<u>Laurie Rickaway</u>
<u>General Manager</u>	<u>Warranty</u>	<u>Texas Bus Sales Inc</u>
<u>RICON</u>	<u>RICON</u>	
Telephone Number: <u>818-267-3016</u>	Fax No.: <u>818-267-3189</u>	<u>Warranty</u>

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Laurie Rickaway
Warranty Administrator
Texas Bus Sales, Inc.

Signed:

Laurie Rickaway

RECEIVED
2008 DECEMBER 15 - 10:00 AM
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.OID@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: *see attachment*

Make(s): N/A Model Years Involved: _____ Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

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

Make(s): N/A Model Years Involved: _____ Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

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

Make(s): N/A Model Years Involved: _____ Model(s): _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Vehicle Type: _____ Bodystyle: _____

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.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
S series	S2005, S5505, S5510	13
K series	K5505 K5510	

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:

13

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 DTE-097

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.

RICON DTE-097

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

RICON DTE-097

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

RICON DTE-097

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

RICON DTE-097

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

RICON DTE-097

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

RICON DTE-097

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.

RICON 07E-097

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.

RICON 07E-097

Texas Bus Sales, Inc. is a distributor and installed 13 lifts and will notify the customers of the 07E-097 as per Ricon's instructions and complete the recall until all 13 lifts are completed.

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.

RICON D7E-097

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

RICON D7E-097

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.

RICON D7E-097

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 D7E-097 RICON will send out the Notice on Texas Bus Sales' letterhead, Texas Bus Sales does not foresee any problems with implementing the recall.

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.

see attached letter

LIST OF RICON LIFTS IN RECALL 07E-097

Lift SN Year/Make/Model/VIN	Customer	Address
187610 2005/Eldorado/Aerotech270 1FDXE45P05H	Central Parking	6655 Will Clayton Parkway Humble, TX 77338
187613 2000/Eldorado/Aerotech200 1FDWE35L5YH	Brighton Gardens	4620 Bellaire Bellaire, TX 77401
187612 2005/Eldorado/Aerotech270 1FDXE45P25H	Central Parking	6655 Will Clayton Parkway Humble, TX 77338
187603 2001/Eldorado/Aerolite210 1FDWE35SXYH	Silverado Senior Living Center	1221 7th St. Sugarland, TX 77478
187602 2005/Eldorado/Aerotech270 1FDXE45P95H	Central Parking	6655 Will Clayton Parkway Humble, TX 77338
187605 2005/Eldorado/Aerotech270 1FDXE45P75H	Central Parking	6655 Will Clayton Parkway Humble, TX 77338
187604 2005/Turtle Top/Terra Transport 1GBJG31U8512	Orange County Ambulance	1502 Strickland Dr. Ste 7 Orange, TX 77630
187607 2005/Eldorado/Aerotech270 1FDXE45P95H	Central Parking	6655 Will Clayton Parkway Humble, TX 77338

187606
2005/Eldorado/Aerotech270
1FDXE45P55H'

Central Parking

6655 Will Clayton Parkway
Humble, TX 77338

197560
2006/Eldorado/AeroElite290
1HVBTA FM66H'

A First Class Limo

15734 Aldine Westfield Rd.
Houston, TX 77032

197559
2006/Eldorado/AeroElite290
1HVBTA FM46H

A First Class Limo

15734 Aldine Westfield Rd.
Houston, TX 77032

204707
NOT INSTALLED

Texas Bus Sales

1605 W. 35th St.
Houston, Tx 77018

204708
2006/Eldorado/AeroElite290
1HVBTA FM66H'

A First Class Limo

15734 Aldine Westfield Rd.
Houston, TX 77032

Laurie Rickaway
Warranty Administrator
Texas Bus Sales, Inc.
P.O. Box 10213
Houston, TX 77206
713-956-5100



1605 West 34th Street * P O Box 10213 * Houston, TX 77206-0213
(713) 681-3600 phone * (713) 682-8737 fax
www.TexasBusSales.com

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

[Date]

[End User]

RE: Safety Standard Non-Compliance Recall Notification NHTSA # (Ricon Recall # 07E-097)

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

Dear [End User]:

Our records show that you may have one or more buses built by DEALER # / CUSTOMER # that has a wheelchair lift built by Ricon Corporation between April 1, 2005 and September 6, 2006, inclusive. Ricon Corporation has determined that a safety related non-compliance with Section 6.10.2.3 of the FMVSS 403 exists in these wheelchair lifts.

! I M P O R T A N T !

- Your Ricon Wheelchair Lift is being recalled
- Contact DEALER # / CUSTOMER # INFO or The Ricon Corporation immediately

WHAT IS BEING RECALLED:

This recall process applies to the "Anti Stow Interlock System" only on Ricon's "1200, 2000 and 5500" series platform lifts labeled for "DOT Public Use" and "DOT Private Use". It does not apply to other Ricon products.

WHY IS IT BEING RECALLED:

The non-compliance with S6.10.2.3 of the FMVSS 403 is the result of the Anti Stow Interlock System not detecting the presence of a 50lb test weight on the platform operating volume. In the event this condition occurs during passenger operations it may be possible for the lift platform to begin stowing while a wheelchair or mobility aid user is still occupying the area of the platform close to the pivot point on the platform. This situation could cause personal injury.



1605 West 34th Street * P O Box 10213 * Houston, TX 77206-0213
(713) 681-3600 phone * (713) 682-8737 fax
www.TexasBusSales.com

Page 2 – Owner Recall - Recall NHTSA # (Ricon#07E-097)

WHAT YOU AS THE OWNER SHOULD DO:

Immediately contact the Ricon Corporation to be directed to the nearest Ricon dealer or repair agent. You can do so by calling Ricon Customer Service at (800)322-2884, emailing at Marketing@riconcorp.com or you can locate the nearest servicing dealer using the Ricon Dealer Locator on the Ricon website – www.riconcorp.com

WHAT WE WILL DO:

DEALER # / CUSTOMER #, in cooperation with Ricon, will direct you the nearest servicing Ricon dealer that will repair the non-compliance at no cost to you. If the lift is repaired or retrofitted by an authorized Ricon dealer and it is not completed within 3 business days, please notify Ricon Customer Support at the toll free number listed above.

If after attempting to have your vehicle repaired you believe you have not been able to have your vehicle remedied without charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C., 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions concerning these procedures please contact Ricon Customer Service at (800)322-2884 or by email at Marketing@riconcorp.com.

We apologize for any inconvenience this safety recall may cause, but your safety is our first concern.

Sincerely,

DEALER # / CUSTOMER # INFO