

DATE: September 18, 2008



TO: Girardin Minibus Distributors

SUBJECT: Recall # 08-021-RIU (NHTSA # 08E-463)
Ricon's 1200, 2000 and 5500 series Platform lifts labelled "DOT Public Use" and "DOT Private Use"

FROM: Valérie Fortin, Regulations and Standards Technician, Girardin Minibus

Please find enclosed a copy of the notification letter we will mail to our end users in the next days regarding Ricon's recall:

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

Girardin has decided that certain MY 2005 to 2008 MBII and G5 model school and commercial buses manufactured between June 2005 and December 2007 inclusive and equipped with Ricon "1200, 2000 and 5500" series platform lifts fail to comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 403, "Platform Lift System for Motor Vehicle".

The vehicle, identified above, is affected and this recall is being conducted based on information provided by Ricon.

What is being recalled:

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

The safety issue is:

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 wheelchair or mobility aid user. 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 of the platform. This situation could cause personal injury.

What we are asking you to do:

Please follow Ricon Corporation instructions enclosed for the vehicle (s) affected by this recall still in your inventory.

What Ricon will do:

Upon notification, Ricon will work with you to make the necessary adjustment to the pressure switch(es) on the lift(s). If you are already factory trained to perform service on Ricon Products, the adjustment can be done at your location (follow the procedure on the document attached). If

you are not factory trained to perform service on Ricon Products, Ricon will arrange for the adjustment to be done at the nearest Ricon authorized service center/dealer.

The lift adjustment will be completed at no charge and Ricon will pay a reasonable labor charge for each adjustment. No part is necessary to correct this noncompliance.

If the lift is 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 1 800 322-2884 or (818) 267-3000.

If you have had your vehicle repaired prior to receipt of this notice, you may be entitled to reimbursement if you incurred any out of pocket cost due to this matter. For further information, please contact Ricon Customer Support at the number listed above.

If, after contacting the authorized dealer and Ricon Customer Support, your inspection and/or repair is not completed in a reasonable time and without charge you may contact: Girardin Minibus at 819 477-2012 Ext: 428.

Should Girardin Minibus fail or is unable to remedy the situation without charge, you may contact:

Associate Administrator for Enforcement Administrator,
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590
Phone (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>

How long will it take:

The work will take to complete. However, additional time may be required depending on your inspection. If after your inspection you determine further attention is needed, please contact your local Ricon dealer service center and schedule an appointment.

A list of the involved vehicles is enclosed. If some have been sold & are not registered yet, please register them as soon as possible.

Distributors are reminded of their responsibilities under section 154 of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1991. Dealers are required to have their units in inventory modified/repaired before delivering to the final owner.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at 819 477-2012 extension 428. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.