



A Subsidiary of **FREIGHTLINER**
LLC

July 19, 2008

Recall 08V-087

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Thomas Built Buses, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on certain ER-HD, MVP-EF, FS-65, HDX, C2 and Minotour school buses, manufactured between 2000 and 2008. These units are identified on the enclosed postcard (Form PSD 304).

The defect involves the exterior handle. The exterior handle could begin corroding around the securing roll pin and square drive mechanism causing the protective finish to chip and flake. Continued corrosion and pitting weakens the handle. Handles weakened by corrosion over time may break while trying to open the door from the exterior. In the event of an emergency, a person on the outside of the bus may break the door handle trying to open the emergency exit potentially delaying evacuation and increasing the risk of personal injury to the vehicle's occupants.

You should immediately contact your Thomas Built Buses dealer for an appointment to have your vehicle modified. Thomas will remedy this defect without charge. The remedy will consist of replacing the aluminum handles with a more robust handle. It will take approximately .3 per handle for repairs. To arrange for repairs, contact your local Thomas Built Buses dealer. After the repair is made, please complete each postage paid card separately and return it to Thomas Built Buses to verify completion.

In addition to being used to verify repair completion, the postcard must be completed and returned if the vehicle does not need repair, if you no longer own the vehicle, or the vehicle identified on the postcard has been exported, stolen, or destroyed/totaled. Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving the recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within 10 days.

If you have had your vehicle repaired due to this defect prior to receipt of this notice and you have incurred any costs, you may be eligible for reimbursement. For further information, please contact the Customer Support office at (336) 822-2871, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern standard time Monday through Friday. To find a dealer in your area please go to www.thomasbus.com.

If the defect is not remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, which is not longer than 60 days after you tender the vehicle for repair, also please contact the Customer Support Office at (336)-889-4871. You may also submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20590, or phone the Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153) or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>. If your vehicle is involved in the Canadian portion, you may notify the Manager, Recall and Public Compliance, Road and Motor Vehicle Traffic Safety Branch, Transport Canada, Ottawa, Ontario or phone (613)-993-9851.

Sincerely,

Tracy Sauerbrey
Warranty/Recall Department

Enclosure



Repair Procedure

Instruction Sheet #TBB 85490092

RECALL #08V-087

MODEL: C2, ER-HD, FS-65, HDX, MVP-EF, MINOTOUR

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY / SIDE DOOR HANDLE RETROFIT

PAGE: 1 OF 2

All units with start of production dates of November 9, 2000 through March 10, 2008 will be covered by this change.

Read entire procedure before beginning.

1. Cut off the existing door handle to break it loose from the square shaft it is attached to. **(Figure 1)** Retain nylon washer and rubber washer to be reinstalled.
 - 1.1 Make cut in the direction pictured approximately 1/2" deep and then use a mallet / pry bar to remove handle.
 - 1.2 Be careful not to damage the square shaft. **Figure 2**
 - 1.3 Discard the existing pin and handle.

Make a cut in the handle parallel to the Roll Pin.

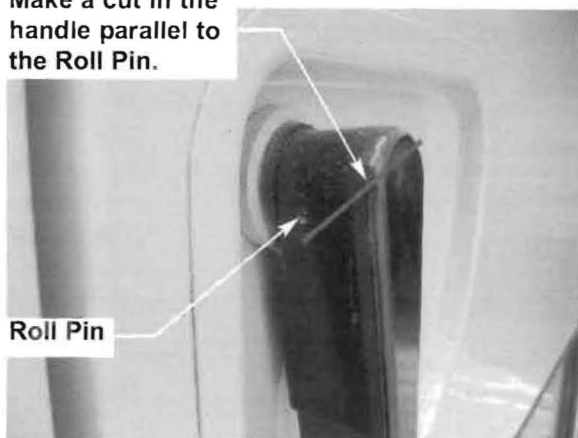


Figure 1



Figure 2

2. Install the new Handle, #TBB 138158, with the existing nylon washer and rubber washer as shown in **Figure 3**.
3. Insert new Roll Pin (Spring Pin), #TBB 148087.
 - 3.1 Set the internal handle to the latched position before installing the new external handle. **Figure 4**
 - 3.2 In this orientation, the new handle should be vertical when installed.
4. Confirm handle operation after installation.

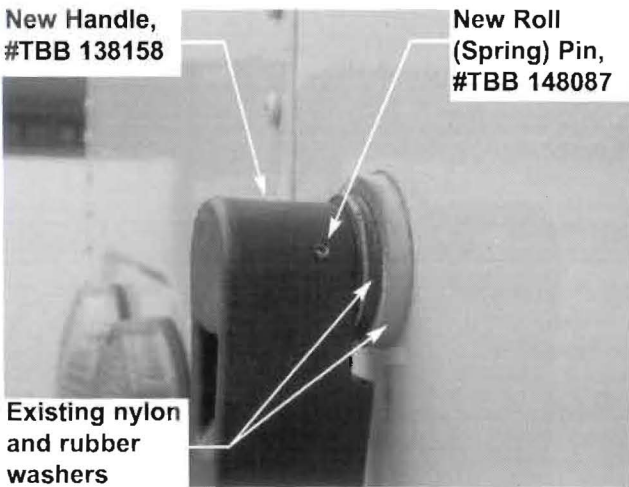


Figure 3

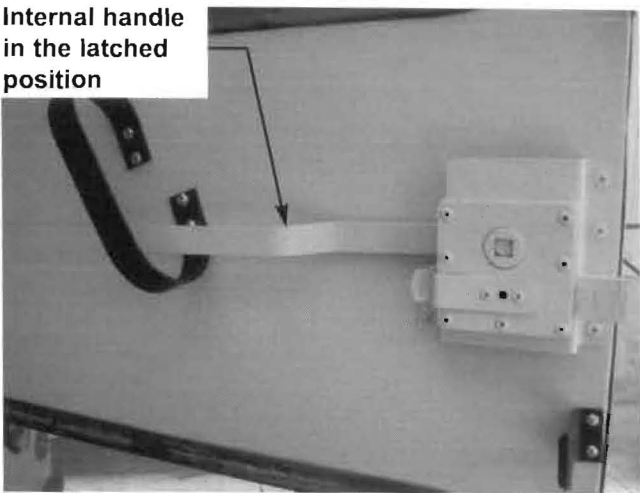


Figure 4

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

<u>PART NUMBER</u>	<u>QTY.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION-</u>
25-FL525-000	1	<i>KIT, RECALL #08V-087, EMERGENCY / SIDE DOOR HANDLE RETROFIT</i>
<i>CONSISTING OF:</i>		
TBB 85490092	1	REPAIR PROCEDURE FOR RECALL #08V-087 EMERGENCY / SIDE DOOR HANDLE RETROFIT
TBB 138158	1	HANDLE, EMERGENCY AND LIFT DOOR, EXTERIOR
TBB 148087	1	SPRING PIN, .125 x 1.375, STRAIGHT SLOTTED, 420 STAINLESS STEEL