



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 26, 2009

MR. DAVID M. MIHALICK
STANDARDS COMPLIANCE MANAGER
THOR INDUSTRIES, INC.
PO BOX 629
JACKSON CENTER, OH 45334-0629

NVS-215paw
09V-021

SUBJECT: DRIVELINE FASTENERS

DEAR MR. MIHALICK:

This letter serves to acknowledge Eldorado National – Kansas' notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

ELDORAFO/AERO ELITE/2008-2009
ELDORAFO/AEROLITE/2008-2009
ELDORAFO/AEROTECH/2008-2009
ELDORAFO/TRANSTECH/2008-2009
ELDORAFO/VERSA SHUTTLE/2008-2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-021

Mfg's Report Date: January 15, 2009

Components: POWER TRAIN: DRIVE LINE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 730

Summary:

ELDORADO NATIONAL - KANSAS (ENK) IS RECALLING 730 MY 2008-2009 AERO ELITE, AEROLITE, AEROTECH, TRANSTECH, AND VERSA SHUTTLE BUSES. SOME BUSES WERE BUILT WITH DRIVELINE FASTENERS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN IMPROPERLY TORQUED DURING ASSEMBLY.

Consequence:

IF NOT TIGHTENED PROPERLY, THE FASTENERS COULD COME LOOSE AND CAUSE LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL, POSSIBLY CAUSING A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE BUSES AND IF THE TORQUE VALUES FOR THE DRIVELINE FASTENERS ARE FOUND TO BE OUT OF TOLERANCE, THE FASTENERS WILL BE ADJUSTED TO BRING THEIR TORQUE VALUE INTO THE RECOMMENDED TOLERANCE RANGE. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED AN OWNER NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE FOR THIS CAMPAIGN. OWNERS MAY CONTACT ENK AT 1-800-850-1287.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter. As noted in your report, 96 of these buses have been exported outside of the United States.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at Patricia.wallace@dot.gov, Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Wallace".

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement