



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

February 6, 2009

TIMOTHY J. NALEPKA
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT &
GENERAL COUNSEL
MOTOR COACH INDUSTRIES, INC
1700 E GOLF ROAD SUITE 300
SCHAUMBURG IL 60173

NVS-215dgl
09V-041

Subject: TAG AXLE DRIVESHAFT INTERFERENCE

Dear MR. NALEPKA:

This letter serves to acknowledge Motor Coach Industries Inc's 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:

MCI/D4500/2005
MCI/D4505/2006-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-041

Mfg's Report Date: January 26, 2009

Components: SUSPENSION:REAR;AXLE; NON-POWERED AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 103

Summary:

MCI IS RECALLING 103 MY 2005-2008 D4500 AND D4505 COACHES EQUIPPED WITH DETROIT DIESEL SERIES 60 ENGINES AND A ZF TRANSMISSION. CUSTOMERS MAY EXPERIENCE A POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE BETWEEN THE DRIVE SHAFT U-JOINT BEARING CAP BOLTS AND THE TAG AXLE CENTER BEAM ASSEMBLY.

Consequence:

INTERFERENCE BETWEEN THE BEARING CAP BOLTS AND THE AXLE CENTER BEAM ASSEMBLY COULD CAUSE THE BEARING CAP BOLTS TO SHEAR, FREEING THE BEARINGS AND POSSIBLY RELEASING THE DRIVE SHAFT, INCREASING THE RISK OF VEHICLE DAMAGE OR A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSTALL A TAG AXLE SUSPENSION SPACER KIT AND AN SPL250 DRIVESHAFT RETROFIT KIT TO LIMIT THE SUSPENSION TRAVEL AND REDUCE THE SWING DIAMETER OF THE DRIVESHAFT THEREBY INCREASING THE CLEARANCE AND ELIMINATING ANY POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING FEBRUARY 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT MCI AT 1800-241-2947.

Notes:

MCI RECALL NOS. 277 & 320. CUSTOMERS CAN 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).

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577, however we would like to change the word "accident" to "crash"

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).

MCI must file a sample of the envelope which you intend to use to mail the recall notice to owners. The words "SAFETY", "RECALL", "NOTICE" in any order must be printed on the envelope in larger font than the customers name and address.

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.

Your contacts for this recall will be Delia Lopez or Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525 or 202-366-5227, or by email at Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or Kelly.Schuler@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 black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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