



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

February 6, 2009

MR. BOB TIFFIN  
PRESIDENT  
TIFFIN MOTORHOMES, INC.  
105 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET, NW  
RED BAY, AL 35582

NVS-215dgl  
09V-045

Subject: WHEEL END STUDS/ARVINMERITOR

Dear MR. TIFFIN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Tiffin Motorhomes, 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:**  
TIFFIN/ALLEGRO BUS/2009

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 09V-045

**Mfg's Report Date:** January 21, 2008

**Components:** POWER TRAIN: AXLE HUBS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 23

**Summary:**

TIFFIN IS RECALLING 23 MY 2009 ALLEGRO BUSES EQUIPPED WITH ARVINMERITOR AXLE ASSEMBLIES. THE WHEEL END STUDS MAY HAVE BEEN IMPROPERLY TEMPERED RENDERING THEM BRITTLE AND SUSCEPTIBLE TO FRACTURE. IF ONE WHEEL STUD FRACTURES, THE REMAINING WHEEL STUDS ARE REQUIRED TO CARRY MORE LOAD. IF LEFT IN THIS CONDITION, THE REMAINING WHEEL STUDS MAY ALSO FRACTURE EVEN IF THEY ARE PROPERLY MANUFACTURED.

**Consequence:**

FRACTURED WHEEL STUDS COULD RESULT IN A VEHICLE CRASH.

**Remedy:**

TIFFIN IS WORKING WITH ARVINMERITOR WHO WILL REPLACE ANY AFTERMARKET REPLACEMENT STUD FREE OF CHARGE (PLEASE SEE 08E038). OWNERS MAY CONTACT ARVINMERITOR AT 1-248-435-8793 OR TIFFIN AT 256-356-8661.

**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).

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

Please provide us with the beginning and ending dates for the build date range of motor homes affected by this recall.

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).

As stated in your report, ArvinMeritor will be handling the remedy and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.6 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If ArvinMeritor's campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

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](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or [Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto: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