



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 25, 2009

MR. CHRIS HIEBERT
WARRANTY/CUSTOMER SERVICE
COLLINS BUS CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 2946
HUTCHINSON, KS 67505

NVS-215kjs
09V-068

SUBJECT: MISSING BODY MOUNT BOLTS

DEAR MR. HIEBERT:

This letter serves to acknowledge Collins Bus Corporation's (Collins) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the vehicles 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:

COLLINS/BANTAM/2007-2009
COLLINS/MID BUS GUIDE/2007-2009
COLLINS/MID BUS SUPER GUIDE/2007-2009
COLLINS/SUPER BANTAM/2007-2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-068

Mfg's Report Date: February 20, 2009

Components: STRUCTURE:BODY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 490

Summary:

COLLINS IS RECALLING 490 MY 2007 THROUGH 2009 SCHOOL BUSES BUILT ON FORD E-350 AND E-450 CHASSIS FROM NOVEMBER 3, 2006 TO JANUARY 1, 2009. THESE BUSES MAY HAVE BEEN PRODUCED WITH THE ABSENCE OF TWO BODY MOUNT BOLTS AND ASSOCIATED HARDWARE IN 2 OF THE BODY/CHASSIS MOUNTING LOCATIONS IMMEDIATELY BEHIND THE REAR AXLE.

Consequence:

IF ANY OF THE BODY MOUNT BOLTS ARE MISSING THIS CONDITION WOULD NOT PROVIDE A STABLE CONNECTION OF THE BUS BODY TO THE BUS CHASSIS. IN THE EVENT OF A VEHICLE CRASH, THERE MAY BE AN INCREASED RISK OF PERSONAL INJURY TO THE VEHICLE OCCUPANTS.

Remedy:

COLLINS WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND INSPECT AND REPAIR THE BUSES IF NECESSARY FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT MARCH 6, 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT COLLINS TOLL-FREE AT 1-800-533-1850.

Notes:

OWNERS 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.

We have reviewed Collins' proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577. 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.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at 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,

Handwritten signature of Kelly Schuler in cursive script.

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