



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

July 2, 2009

MS. VALERIE FORTIN
REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS TECHNICIAN
GIRARDIN MINIBUS, INC.
3000, RUE GIRARDIN
DRUMMONDVILLE, QUÉBEC J0E 1A0

NVS-215kjs
09V-241

SUBJECT: SEAT BARRIER

DEAR MS. FORTIN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Girardin Minibus, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 222, "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection," in the vehicles listed below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal laws.

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:

GIRARDIN/G5/2007-2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-241

Mfg's Report Date: June 29, 2009

Components: SEATS

Potential Number of Units Affected: To be determined

Summary:

GIRARDIN IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2007 THROUGH 2009 G5 SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN JANUARY 23, 2007 AND JUNE 23, 2009, EQUIPPED WITH 39 INCH, 34 INCH, 30 INCH, AND 21 INCH C.E. WHITE BARRIER SEATS. THESE SEATS FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE BARRIER PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 222, "SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER SEATING AND CRASH PROTECTION."

Consequence:

VEHICLE OCCUPANTS COULD SUFFER INJURIES IN THE EVENT OF A VEHICLE CRASH.

Remedy:

GIRARDIN WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JULY 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT GIRARDIN AT 1-819-477-2012 EXT. 401.

Notes:

GIRARDIN'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NO. 09-026-BAU. CUSTOMERS MAY 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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The information in your noncompliance report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

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 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 the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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