



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 7, 2009

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

NVS-215kjs
09V-315

SUBJECT: LED SCHOOL BUS STOP ARM LIGHTS INOPERATIVE

DEAR MS. FORTIN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Girardin Minibus, Inc's 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 Federal law.

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/G5/2008
GIRARDIN/MB II/2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-315

Mfg's Report Date: August 3, 2009

Components: OTHER:SCHOOL BUS STOP ARM ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 2

Summary:

GIRARDIN IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2008 G5 AND MBII SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1, 2008, AND OCTOBER 31, 2008, EQUIPPED WITH SPECIALTY MANUFACTURING, INC. (SMI) 000290 LED LIGHT KITS. A CHANGE TO THE WIRE USED IN THE LED LIGHT KITS MAY REDUCE THE EFFECTIVE LIFE OF THE LIGHTS USED ON THE STOP ARMS AND, AS A RESULT, THE LIGHTS MAY STOP FUNCTIONING WITHOUT WARNING.

Consequence:

SHOULD THE LED LIGHTS STOP FUNCTIONING, VISIBILITY OF A STOPPED BUS AND THE STOP ARM WOULD BE DECREASED, THEREBY INCREASING THE RISK OF A PASSING VEHICLE STRIKING A CHILD OR OTHER PERSON ENTERING OR LEAVING THE BUS.

Remedy:

GIRARDIN WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND THE BUSES WILL BE REPAIRED FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING AUGUST 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT SMI WARRANTY SERVICE AT 1-800-951-7867 OR GIRARDIN AT 1-819-477-2012.

Notes:

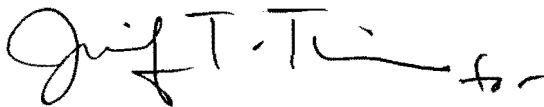
GIRARDIN'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NO. 09-029-SAU. OWNERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

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

We have received your proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes once our review is complete. 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).

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,



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