

April 24, 2009

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VIA E-MAIL - RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED

09V-146
(2 Pages)

OFFICE OF DEFECTS
DIVISION

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Eldorado National – Kansas
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Eldorado National has been notified by Carrier concerning a safety defect present in K410 Condenser Assemblies shipped prior to December 11, 2008 inclusive. Carrier has already initiated a safety recall campaign with respect to this non-compliance. NHTSA has assigned recall number 09E - 013 to the Carrier recall campaign.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain buses manufactured by Eldorado National were built with Carrier interlock harnesses that contain the defect.

As more specifically set forth below, Carrier has agreed to conduct the recall campaign involving these defective K410 Condenser Assemblies. Eldorado National will provide Carrier with a list of dealers and owners to assist Carrier in remedying the defect. Carrier will be filing the quarterly reports in connection with the recall campaign.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The K410 Condenser Assemblies supplied by Carrier have been used on the following buses:

<u>Model</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
Aero Elite	2009
AeroTech	2009
AeroElite	2009

The total number of buses subject to this recall campaign is 66.

- B. Description of Defect. The K410 Unit is installed on the top of a bus. In response to an incident reported to Carrier, as more fully described below, Carrier determined that the K410 cover may interfere with the coil header when the cover is placed on the unit assembly. The interference prevents the cover from resting on the unit mounting surface, creating a gap between the cover and unit assembly. This condition will not permit the cover fasteners to securely clamp the cover to the unit assembly, which may result in the cover dislocating from the unit during bus operation, possibly causing a crash or cause injury to pedestrians.

- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Eldorado National was informed by Carrier via letter of the safety defect on April 7, 2009.
- D. Remedying of Defect. As set forth in the notification issued by Carrier in connection with recall campaign 09E-013, Carrier developed its retrofit to address the root cause of the cover fit. The remedy consists of affixing a spacer to the K410 unit assembly to ensure the cover makes proper contact with the unit frame; changing the fasteners that secure the unit cover to the frame to hex head screws with fender washers to increase the load bearing area under the screw head; and applying locktite to the screw threads to further mitigate the possibility of the screws loosening. The owners of the buses subject to this recall campaign will be advised to contact Eldorado National – Kansas or Carrier in order to make arrangements to have the remedy completed. Eldorado National – Kansas has agreed to remedy the defect without charge to the owners.
- E. Owner and Dealer Notifications. Eldorado National will provide Carrier a list of the owner's and dealers affected by this recall and assist Carrier in contacting them. A copy of the letters will be provided shortly for your approval.
- F. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Carrier will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with recall campaign 09E-013. Because the information included by Carrier in its quarterly reports will encompass the remedying of the Eldorado National buses subject to this recall campaign, Eldorado National will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication.
- G. Campaign Number. Eldorado National does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Eldorado National will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Eldorado National with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Eldorado National in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363 or Eldorado National at 800-850-1287.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries
Standards Compliance Manager