



December 3, 2009

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 7th Street, S.W. Suite 5319  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations - Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Collins Bus Corporation is submitting information relating to a safety recall we are conducting. Specific information is as follows:

**573.6(c)(1) Vehicles affected are manufactured by:**

Collins Bus Corporation, a division of Collins Industries, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2946  
Hutchinson, Kansas 67504-2946

**573.6(c)(2) The following vehicle models are being recalled:**

Collins Ford and Chevy Grand Bantam and Super Bantam built on 2008 and 2009 chassis and Mid Bus Ford and Chevy Grand Guide and Super Guide School Buses built on 2008 and 2009 chassis with a Braun NCL917IB-2 Century Model lift installed.

**573.6(c)(3) The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect is:**

Total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect is 63. The majority of these vehicles are in the possession of end users. Some vehicles are in the possession of Collins Bus distributors awaiting delivery to end-users.

**573.6(c)(4) The approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles to contain the defect is:**

The population stated in section 573.6(c)(3) represents all Collins School Buses with Braun NCL917IB-2 Lift installed from February 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. An estimated 100% of the vehicles contain this defect.

**573.6(c)(5) Description of the defect:**

Vehicles with Braun NCL917IB-2 Century wheel chair lift installed may not comply with FMVSS 403. The inner barrier may deploy (FMVSS403 S6.10.2.7) or the platform may stow (FMVSS 403 S6.10.2.3) while occupied resulting in serious injury or death.

**573.6(c)(6) The following is a summary of all the events that were the basis for determining the defect.**

NHTSA testing on a 2008 Collins Grand Bantam School Bus with a Braun NCL917IB-2 Century Lift found noncompliance with FMVSS No. 404. Review of manufacturing records revealed this condition may exist on vehicles produced from February 1, 2008. All product that has been built since September 30, 2009 has been produced or reworked correctly.

No previous warranty claims or reports of damage due to this defect exist. This is a proactive safety recall campaign.

**573.6(c)(7) Test results or data:**

Based upon the results of test data that NHTSA gathered the installed Braun NCL917IB-2 did not comply with FMVSS 403 S6.10.2.3 and S6.10.2.7.

**573.6(c)(8)(i) The defect will be corrected as follows:**

Customers will be instructed to take their vehicles to a Braun dealership or certified Collins Bus dealership. Measurements and necessary adjustments will be made to assure compliance to the defects noted in section 573.6(c)(5).

**573.6(c)(8)(ii) Correspondence to notify Collins Bus Corporation distributors and Customers of the safety recall:**

Mailing of Customer and Distributor notification letters is scheduled to be completed by December 21, 2009

**573.6(c)(10)**

Attached is a copy of the proposed Owners Notification Letter and Owner Response Postcard that Collins Bus Corporation will send to the vehicle owners.

**573.6(c)(11)**

Collins Bus Corporation will use the campaign identification number assigned by NHTSA .

Should you need further information, my contact information is as follows:

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E-mail: [chris.hiebert@collinsbus.com](mailto:chris.hiebert@collinsbus.com)  
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P.O. Box 2946  
Hutchinson, KS 67504-2946

Sincerely,  
**COLLINS BUS CORPORATION**

Chris Hiebert  
Warranty/Customer Service