



DATE: September 2009

TO: Girardin Minibus Distributors

SUBJECT: Recall # 09-031-FSU (NHTSA 09V-322)
Fold-away seat bolts

FROM: Valérie Fortin, Regulations and Standards Technician, Girardin Minibus

Please find enclosed a copy of the notification letter we will mail to our end users in the next days regarding Girardin Minibus recall # 09-031-FSU:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and *Motor Vehicle Safety Act*.

Girardin Minibus has decided that certain 2006 through 2009 G5 non school minibuses equipped with Freedman fold-away passenger seat fail to conform to the strength requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Nos. 207, "Seating Systems", and 210, "Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages." In the event of a crash, the seat and seat belt assembly may not restrain the occupant as intended possibly resulting in injury or death to the seat occupant. Our records show that you own the vehicle (s) with the vehicle identification number shown above (or on the reply sheet).

The safety issue is: The location of some bolts used for the anchorage of the Freedman fold-away passenger seat installed in these vehicles is improper.

What we are asking you to do:

Verify the location of the bolts used for all seat's anchorage. If some bolts are installed at an improper location as shown in the attached document, repair must be done. The remedy is to install a longer bolts through the cross member and to add a 1/4" washer plate to each problematic bolt to avoid a bolt pulling out. The plate will be applied against the .1875" cross member and against the .125" seat support. (see Service Bulletin enclosed)

Please contact Chantal Blanchette at Girardin's Service and Warranty, at 819 477-2012 ext. 401 or chantal.blanchette@girardin.com to get the replacement parts.

After you have done the repair, please return the reply sheet to Girardin. This will enable us to update our file and mail you a check for the labour.

If you prefer, you can make an appointment with your dealer to have it done free of charge (parts & labour).

How long will it take:

Time required to do the repair is approximately 30 minutes per seat. Owners will be reimbursed for reasonable labor charges.

A list of the involved vehicles is enclosed. If some have been sold & are not registered yet, please register them as soon as possible.

Dealers are required to have their units in inventory modified/repared before delivering to the final owner.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at (819) 477-2012 extension 428. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.