



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

June 2, 2010

MR. KEVIN WALKER  
ENGINEERING MANAGER  
STARTRANS BUS CORPORATION  
P.O. BOX 463  
GOSHEN, IN 46527

NVS-215kjs  
10V-219

**SUBJECT: SEAT BARRIER FOR LEG PROTECTION**

**DEAR MR. WALKER:**

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

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:**  
STARTRANS/MFSAB/2008-2010

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 10V-219      **Mfg's Report Date:** May 17, 2010

**Components:** SEATS:BARRIERS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 130

**Summary:**

STARTRANS IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2008 THROUGH 2010 MFSAB MODEL SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM JANUARY 2008 THROUGH APRIL 9, 2010 EQUIPPED WITH FREEDMAN SEAT BARRIERS, P/NOS. 38764 AND 15198. THE BARRIER FOR LEG PROTECTION WAS BUILT USING THE WRONG GAUGE OF MATERIAL WHICH FAILS TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 222, "SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER SEATING AND CRASH PROTECTION."

**Consequence:**

IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH, THE SEAT OCCUPANT(S) MAY NOT BE ADEQUATLY PROTECTED, INCREASING THE RISK OF INJURY.

**Remedy:**

STARTRANS WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JUNE 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT STARTRANS AT 1-574-642-0810.

**Notes:**

STARTRAN'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS 000314. 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.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

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 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports will be due on or before 30 days after 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](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Person".

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