



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 22, 2010

MR. LARRY HALL
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING
STARCRAFT BUS
2367 CENTURY DRIVE
GOSHEN, IN 46528

NVS-215kjs
10V-278

SUBJECT: WHEELCHAIR LIFT/INTERLOCK BELT

DEAR MR. URBAHN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Starcraft Bus' (Starcraft) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which 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:
STARCRAFT/ALLSTAR/2007-2009

Mfg's Report Date: June 2, 2010 **NHTSA Campaign Number:** 10V-278

Components: EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,020

Summary:

STARCRAFT BUS IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2007 THROUGH 2009 ALLSTAR SHUTTLE BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM DECEMBER 1, 2007 THROUGH DECEMBER 18, 2009 AND FITTED WITH RICON PUBLIC USE LIFTS. THE RESTRAINT BELT ON THESE LIFTS WAS DESIGNED TO PREVENT THE LIFT FROM MOVING, UNLESS THE TONGUE OF THE BELT IS FULLY ENGAGED AND LATCHED IN THE BUCKLE. RICON HAS DISCOVERED, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE OPERATOR TO INSERT THE BELT TONGUE INTO THE BUCKLE WITHOUT FULLY ENGAGING THE LATCHING MECHANISM. IN THIS CASE, THE RESTRAINT BELT WOULD APPEAR TO BE

LATCHED, AND THE OPERATOR COULD RUN THE LIFT. IF THE RESTRAINT BELT TONGUE IS NOT FULLY ENGAGED INTO THE RESTRAINT BELT BUCKLE, AND LATCHED, THE LIFT MAY OPERATE WITH AN OCCUPANT ON THE PLATFORM.

Consequence:

THE USER OF THE LIFT COULD BE INJURED SHOULD THE LIFT MOVE WITHOUT THE RESTRAINT BELT PROPERLY BUCKLED.

Remedy:

STARCRAFT IS WORKING WITH RICON AND RICON WILL BE PERFORMING THE REMEDY FOR THIS CAMPAIGN. PLEASE SEE RICON'S DEFECT REPORT 09E-060. RICON WILL PROVIDE CUSTOMERS WITH A WARNING DECAL AND A DVD-BASED TRAINING AID. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JUNE 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT RICON AT 1-818-267-3000 OR STARCRAFT BUS AT 1-800-348-7440.

Notes:

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 reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577. 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 your report, Ricon will be handling the owner notification, remedy, and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.6 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Ricon's campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

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,

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

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