



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 30, 2010

MR. JAMES BERNACCHI
PRESIDENT
BUSWEST, LLC
21107 S. CHICO STREET
CARSON, CA 90745

NVS-215kjs
10V-292

SUBJECT: SEAT CUSHION RETENTION LOCKING MECHANISM

DEAR MR. BERNACCHI:

This letter serves to acknowledge BusWest, LLC's (BusWest) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a noncompliance with the requirements of 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:
THOMAS BUILT/HDX/2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 10V-292

Mfg's Report Date: June 25, 2010

Components: SEATS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 2

Summary:

BUSWEST IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2011 HDX SCHOOL BUSES BUILT ON THOMAS BUILT CHASSIS FROM OCTOBER 6, 2009 THROUGH JANUARY 25, 2010 EQUIPPED WITH SEATS MANUFACTURED BY IMMI. THE SEAT CUSHION LOCKING MECHANISMS WERE MISALIGNED DURING VEHICLE ASSEMBLY. THIS ERROR RENDERS THE SCHOOL BUSES NONCOMPLIANT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 222, "SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER SEATING AND CRASH PROTECTION."

Consequence:

IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH, THE SEAT CUSHION COULD DETACH FROM THE SEAT, INCREASING THE RISK OF INJURY TO THE BUS OCCUPANTS.

Remedy:

BUSWEST WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JULY 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT BUSWEST AT 1-310-984-3900.

Notes:

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).

You are reminded that 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.

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 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, 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,



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