

419 West Pike Street, PO Box 629, Jackson Center, OH 45334-0629

March 30, 2010

**VIA E-MAIL**  
**RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED**

10V-127  
(2 Pages)

Mr. Daniel Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Champion Bus  
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Champion Bus has been notified by Trans Air concerning a safety defect involving Trans Air EC2.0, 2.5, & 3.0 electrical systems built between May 2006 and June 2009 inclusive. Trans Air has already initiated a safety recall campaign with respect to this non-compliance. NHTSA has assigned recall number 09E-042 to the Trans Air recall campaign.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, we are hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain buses manufactured by Champion Bus were built with Trans Air Trans Air EC2.0, 2.5, & 3.0 electrical systems that contain the defect.

As more specifically set forth below, Trans Air has agreed to conduct the recall campaign involving these defective Trans Air EC2.0, 2.5, & 3.0 electrical systems. Champion Bus will provide Trans Air with a list of dealers and owners to assist Trans Air in remedying the defect. Trans Air will be filing the quarterly reports in connection with the recall campaign.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The defective Trans Air EC2.0, 2.5, & 3.0 electrical systems supplied by Trans Air have been used on the following buses:

<u>Make</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
American Coach	2008
Challenger	2008 - 2009
Defender	2007 - 2008
EZ Trans	2007-2009
HC 270NF	2009
IC American Coach	2008-2009
IC High Floor	2007-2010
IC Low Floor	2006-2010

These buses were manufactured between September 2006 and August 2009.  
The total number of buses subject to this recall campaign is 191.

- B. Description of Defect. The Trans Air EC2.0, 2.5, & 3.0 electrical systems in question are typically installed in school and transit type commercial buses. These systems include a relay board with a 12-position terminal strip with screws mounted to a pc board. Trans/Air has concluded that the relay boards present a risk of overheating under any of the following three conditions: loose screws due to improper torquing; poor wire

- connections due to improperly crimped terminals; or debris deposited on the EC board. These can result in electrical arcing and overheating of the EC board. In the worst case scenario, such arcing and overheating can result in a fire.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Champion Bus received notification from Trans Air that the defect with the Trans Air EC2.0, 2.5, & 3.0 electrical systems exists.
  - D. Remedying of Defect. As set forth in the notification issued by Trans Air in connection with recall campaign 09E-042, Trans Air will correct the Trans Air EC2.0, 2.5, & 3.0 electrical systems if found to be defective. The owners of the buses subject to this recall campaign will be advised to contact Trans Air in order to make arrangements to have the remedy completed by Trans Air. Trans Air will implement the recall campaign in accordance with the procedures specified in recall campaign 09E-042. Trans Air has agreed to remedy the defect without charge to the owners.
  - E. Owner Notifications. Trans Air will notify the owner's of the buses on behalf of Champion Bus. A copy of the owner's notification letter is attached for approval.
  - F. Dealer Notifications. Trans Air will notify the dealer's of the buses on behalf of Champion Bus. A copy of the dealer's notification letter is attached for approval.
  - G. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Trans Air will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with recall campaign 09E-042. Because the information included by Trans Air in its quarterly reports will encompass the remedying of the Champion Bus buses subject to this recall campaign, Champion Bus will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication.
  - H. Campaign Number. Champion Bus does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Champion Bus will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Champion Bus with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Champion Bus in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363 or Champion Bus at 810-724-6474.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick  
Thor Industries, Standards Compliance Manager