



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

November 10, 2010

**VIA E-MAIL
RECEIPT CONFIRMATION REQUESTED**

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

10V-568
(2 Pages)

Re: Eldorado National – California
Defect and Non-Compliance Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Eldorado National - California ("Eldorado") has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the buses listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

- A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The recall population includes the following product brands manufactured by Eldorado.

<u>Product Brand</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
EZ Rider II	2006 - 2011

The total number of vehicles subject to this recall campaign is: 1084.
These vehicles were built between April 2006 and November 2010.

- B. Description of Defect. The vehicles subject to this recall campaign were manufactured with a defective steering drag link. The drag links involved in this recall are not of sufficient strength for the duty cycle in which they are operating. The drag links have experienced fatigue failure at the rear adjustment point of the drag link. A drag link failure could result in loss of control of the vehicle resulting in a crash of the vehicle.
- C. Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists. Eldorado received one report of a drag link failure from a customer. After receiving this report, Eldorado initiated an investigation into the failure with the drag link supplier. During that investigation, Eldorado received an additional report of failure from another customer. The supplier then conducted a laboratory analysis of one of the failed drag links. There have been no reports of accidents or personal injury as a result of this defect.
- D. Remediying of Defect. The remedy is to inspect the vehicles in the suspect population to insure they have the defective drag link. If the vehicle is found to have the defective drag link, it will be replaced with a new one. The remedy will start once replacement parts are received in house at Eldorado. This inspection and remedy will be done at no cost to the owner.

- E. Additional Parts for Service In addition to the vehicles listed above, Eldorado also sold 280 of the defective drag links as service parts for the EZ Rider II buses. This drag link can only be used on the recalled vehicles. The population of recalled vehicles will encompass any service parts that were sold by Eldorado.

- F. Supplier Information
Pailton Inc.
2901 Bertholet Blvd.
Valpraiso, IN 46383
Contact: Robert Kilhefner – VP Sales
Phone: 219-476-0085

- G. Owner and Dealer Notifications Eldorado will notify the owners and dealers of the buses by letter. This notification is expected to happen by November 22, 2010. Copies of these letters will be sent to NHTSA for approval prior to them being sent.

- H. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Eldorado will be filing quarterly reports in connection with this recall campaign.

- I. Campaign Number. Eldorado does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. Eldorado will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

The enclosed information should comply with the NHTSA regulations and satisfy the obligations of Eldorado with respect to this recall campaign. If you need any additional information regarding the participation of Eldorado in this recall campaign, please feel free to contact David Mihalick at 937-596-6849, Ext. 7363. or Tony Wayne, Eldorado, at 909-591-9557.

Sincerely,



David M. Mihalick
Thor Industries
Standards Compliance Manager