

November 18, 2010

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

10V-593  
(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 TA 73 evaporators built between 8/2/1999 and 7/31/2007 inclusive. Trans Air has already initiated a safety recall campaign with respect to this non-compliance. NHTSA has assigned recall number 10E-028 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 TA 73 evaporators that contain the defect.

As more specifically set forth below, Trans Air has agreed to conduct the recall campaign involving these defective Trans Air TA 73 evaporators. 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 TA 73 evaporators supplied by Trans Air have been used on the following buses:

| <u>Make</u>            | <u>Model Years</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Challenger             | 2005 - 2008        |
| International Defender | 2007 - 2008        |

These buses were manufactured between October 2004 and February 2009.  
The total number of buses subject to this recall campaign is 107.

- B. Description of Defect. The Trans Air TA 73 evaporators in question are typically installed in school and transit type commercial buses. The evaporator utilizes a power resistor to regulate blower speed. Should a short occur in the "low or medium speed" circuit while the blower is in high speed, the short will cause the supply voltage to feedback through the resistor to ground, not drawing enough current to trip the fuse, but causing the resistor temperature to rise to a point where it will melt and possibly ignite the plastic blower housing to which it is mounted. In the worst case scenario, the 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 TA 73 evaporators exists.

- D. Remediying of Defect. As set forth in the notification issued by Trans Air in connection with recall campaign 10E-028, Trans Air will correct the Trans Air TA 73 evaporators 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 10E-028. 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. Quarterly Reporting Requirements. Trans Air will be responsible for filing quarterly reports in connection with recall campaign 10E-028. Because the information included by Trans Air in its quarterly reports will encompass the remediying of the Champion Bus buses subject to this recall campaign, Champion Bus will not file quarterly reports to avoid duplication.
- G. 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