

Elkhart Coach

52807 County Road 7
Elkhart, Indiana 46514

December 15, 2010

Alex Ansley

US DOT- NHTSA
Office of Defects Investigation
Recall Management / W46-437
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Defect Information Notice 10E028000

Mr. Ansley:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Elkhart Coach, a Division of Forest River Inc., reports a safety campaign to recall 52 Elkhart Coach Buses manufactured between 08/02/1999 and 05/15/07 with a defect in the Trans/Air TA73 evaporators. The serial numbers will fall between E994163 & E073040.

Attached is Elkhart Coach's Defect Information Notice, a copy of the Dealer Letter, and a copy of the Owner Letter.

Please contact me if you have any questions. msweitzer@forestriverinc.com or 574-264-5179 Ext. 113

Sincerely yours,



Mike Sweitzer

Elkhart Coach

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Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

December 15, 2010

(c)(2) Manufacturer: Elkhart Coach
52807 County Road 7
Elkhart, Indiana 46514
(574) 264-5179

Brands: Elkhart Coach

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Models affected:

ECI and ECII

Model Years: 2005-2007

Manufacture Dates: August. 2, 2005 to May 15, 2007

Basis for Determining Population: All models built with certain Trans/Air Conditioning Equipment. Specifically the recall process applies to the Trans/Air evaporator TA73.

Component Manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacture: Trans/Air Manufacturing Corp.

(c)(3) Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected: 52

(c)(4) Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Contain the Defect: 100%

(c)(5) Description of the Defect: 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.

(c)(6) Chronology of Principle Events:

5/07 - Incident #1 took place at OEM facility in Goshen, In.

- Investigation showed that a screw, installed by the OEM, had inadvertently pierced either the low or medium speed control wire while the unit was operating in high speed, resulting in a short and causing the defect.

4/10- Incident #2 took place in Phoenix, Az.

- Investigation shows a similar pattern to the 5/07 incident, incident is still under investigation.

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6/22/10 – At this time, it appears the fire started in the evaporator and the cause appears to be a short.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: Not applicable

(c)(8) Remedial program:

Trans/Air will be adding a thermal shutdown device in series with the speed resistors. Also the production remedy instituted on 7/31/07 relocates the suspect resistor from the plastic blower housing to the heat sink metal top panel.

Estimated Dealer Notification Date: All dealers have been notified by Trans/Air with the defect to this date. Elkhart Coach will also send dealer notification by 12/20/10 certified mail to ensure we follow NHTSA guide lines and Federal law.

Estimated Owner Notification Date: All owners have been notified by Trans/Air with the defect to this date. Elkhart Coach will also send dealer notification by 12/20/10 certified mail to ensure we follow NHTSA guide lines and Federal law.

Reimbursement Plan: Parts and labor for the repair will be at no charge through the Trans/Air warranty department.

(c)(9) Communication sent to dealers and owners: A copy of Elkhart Coach's dealer notification letters been submitted with this report.

(c)(10) Copy of proposed owner notification letter: A copy of Elkhart Coach's owner notification letter has been submitted with this report.

(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number: #10E028000