



DATE: March 2010

TO: Micro Bird Distributors

SUBJECT: Recall # 10-036-RIU (**NHTSA 10V-121**)
Wheelchair lifts –interlock belt

FROM: Valérie Fortin, Regulations and Standards Technician, Micro Bird

Please find enclosed a copy of the notification letter we will mail to our end users in the next days regarding Micro Bird recall # 10-036-RIU:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of *National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.*

Micro Bird has decided that a non compliance which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in 2007 through 2010 G5 and MBII (bus and school bus) equipped with Ricon' wheelchair lifts with a restraint belt. (All DOT Public Use S and K Series wheelchair lift). Our records show that you own the vehicle (s) with the vehicle identification number shown above (or on the reply sheet).

The safety issue is:

The restraint belt on these lifts was designed to prevent the lift from moving, unless the tongue of the belt is fully engaged and latched in the buckle. We have discovered, however, that it is possible for the operator to insert the belt tongue into the buckle without fully engaging the latching mechanism. In this case, the restraint belt would appear to be latched, and the operator could run the lift.

If the restraint belt tongue is not fully engaged into the restraint belt buckle, and latched, the lift may operate with an occupant on the platform. Though it is incumbent on the operator to ensure that the belt is fully engaged and latched, failure to check this is within the realm of foreseeable misuse. This situation could cause personal injury.

What we are asking you to do:

Please follow Ricon Corporation instructions below for the vehicle (s) affected by this recall still in your inventory.

Immediately instruct your drivers/operators to listen for the audible “Click” and subsequently “Tug” on the belt to ensure proper engagement and latching. This procedure is contained in the Operator’s Manual and should become part of your standard operating instructions for using the Ricon wheelchair lift. Contact the Ricon Corporation and we will send you a warning decal and training aids. You can choose to have Ricon provide you with the warning decals directly or you can ask to be directed to the nearest Ricon dealer or repair agent. You can do so by calling Ricon Customer Service at (800)322-2884, emailing at www.DMata@wabtec.com or you can locate the nearest servicing dealer using the Ricon Dealer Locator on the Ricon website – www.riconcorp.com

WHAT RICON CORPORATION WILL DO:

Ricon will ship you a warning decal and a DVD-based training aid to promote the “Click and Tug” campaign. Ricon will provide instruction on how to apply it to your Ricon wheelchair lift. You may also choose to have your nearest servicing Ricon dealer apply the decal at no cost to you. Ricon may provide another point of use materials to raise the awareness of “Click and Tug”. If the lift is repaired



or retrofitted by an authorized Ricon dealer and it is not completed within 3 business days, please notify Ricon Customer Support at the toll free number listed above.

If after attempting to have your vehicle repaired you believe you have not been able to have your vehicle remedied without charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C., 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions concerning these procedures please contact Ricon Customer Service at (800)322-2884, extension 3374 to speak to our Recall Coordinator, Daniel Mata, or by email at DMata@wabtec.com.

If, after contacting the authorized dealer and Ricon Customer Support, your repair is not completed in a reasonable time and without charge you may contact: Micro Bird at 819 477-2012 Ext: 428.

Should Micro Bird fail or is unable to remedy the situation without charge, you may contact:

Associate Administrator for Enforcement Administrator,
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590
Phone (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>

A list of the involved vehicles is enclosed. If some have been sold & are not registered yet, please register them as soon as possible.

Dealers are required to have their units in inventory modified/repared before delivering to the final owner.

Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to me at (819) 477-2012 extension 428. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.