



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

January 11, 2011

MR. JOSE VAZQUEZ  
WARRANTY ADMINISTRATOR  
TRANS TECH BUS  
7 LAKE STATION ROAD  
WARWICK, NY 10990

NVS-215kjs  
11V-001

**SUBJECT: ROOF BODY PANEL JOINTS/OMITTED ADHESIVE**

**DEAR MR. VAZQUEZ:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Trans Tech Bus' (Trans Tech) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 221, "School Bus Body Joint Strength," for which a safety recall campaign will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

TRANS TECH/RONDAK4F+9/2009

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 11V-001      **Mfg's Report Date:** January 4, 2011

**Components:** STRUCTURE:BODY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** To be determined

**Summary:**

TRANSTECH BUS (TCI) IS RECALLING CERTAIN MFSAB SCHOOL BUSES FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE JOINT STRENGTH REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 221, "SCHOOL BUS BODY JOINT STRENGTH." THE AFFECTED BUSES DO NOT HAVE THE PROPER STRUCTURAL ADHESIVE ON CERTAIN INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR ROOF BODY PANEL JOINTS. TCI WILL PROVIDE THE SPECIFIC BUS MODELS BY MODEL YEAR AND DATES OF PRODUCTION ONCE THEY HAVE DETERMINED WHICH BUSES ARE AFFECTED BY THE NONCOMPLAINECE.

**Consequence:**

IN THE EVENT OF A VEHICLE CRASH THE ROOF PANELS AND JOINTS MAY NOT ABSORB THE IMPACT AND COULD OPEN UP, INCREASING THE RISK OF DEATH OR SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY TO OCCUPANTS IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

TCI IS CURRENTLY DEVELOPING THE REMEDY FOR THIS NONCOMPLIANCE. OWNERS WILL BE SUPPLIED WITH THE PARTS AND INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO REPAIR ANY AFFECTED VEHICLE(S). TCI WILL ASSIST ALL OWNERS WITH SCHEDULING REPAIRS AND LOCATING AUTHORIZED REPAIR FACILITIES. ANY REPAIRS WILL BE PERFORMED FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY 2011. OWNERS MAY CONTACT TCI AT 1-845-988-2333.

**Notes:**

CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

This campaign is the result of an investigation, PE-20101213, conducted by the Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

The information in your noncompliance report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at [Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign. Sincerely,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement