



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 18, 2011

MR. VINCE CLINE
ENGINEERING MANAGER - SCHOOL BUS DIVISION
STARCRAFT BUS
2408 CENTURY DRIVE
GOSHEN, IN 46528

NVS-215kjs
11V-100

SUBJECT: JOINT STRENGTH/MISSING REQUIRED ADHESIVE

DEAR MR. CLINE:

This letter serves to acknowledge Starcraft Bus' (Starcraft) 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:

STARCRAFT/PRODIGY/2008-2011
STARCRAFT/QUEST/2008-2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-100 **Mfg's Report Date:** February 11, 2010

Components: STRUCTURE:BODY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,385

Summary:

STARCRAFT IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2008 THROUGH 2011 PRODIGY AND QUEST MFSAB MODEL SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM OCTOBER 20, 2008, THROUGH JANUARY 18, 2011. THE BODY PANELS COULD BE MISSING A STRUCTURAL JOINT ADHESIVE. ACCORDINGLY, THESE BUSES FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE JOINT STRENGTH REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 221, "SCHOOL BUS BODY JOINT STRENGTH."

Consequence:

IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH, SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH CAN OCCUR AS A RESULT OF THE STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE OF THE SCHOOL BUS BODY PANELS.

Remedy:

STARCRAFT WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND DEALERS WILL REPAIR THE BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING FEBRUARY 2011. OWNERS MAY CONTACT STARCRAFT AT 1-800-348-7440.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-423 (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.

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

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577.

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).

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

Sincerely,



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