



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 1, 2011

MR. DAVID MIHALICK
STANDARDS COMPLIANCE MANAGER
THOR MOTOR COACH
419 W. PIKE ST.
JACKSON CENTER, OH 45334

NVS-215kjs
11V-432

SUBJECT: V-BAND CLAMP ASSEMBLY/CUMMINS

DEAR MR. MIHALICK:

This letter serves to acknowledge Thor Motor Coach's (TMC), filed on behalf of Eldorado National – California, notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which 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:
ELDORADO/AXESS/2011
ELDORADO/EZ RIDER II MAX/2011
ELDORADO/TRANSMARK/2011
ELDORADO/XHF/2011

Mfg's Report Date: August 19, 2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-432

Components: ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 22

Summary:

ELDORADO IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2011 COMMERCIAL BUSES, MODELS EZ RIDER II MAX, TRANSMARK, XHF, AND AXESS, MANUFACTURED FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2010, THROUGH MARCH 31, 2011, EQUIPPED WITH A CUMMINS ISB, ISL, ISC, OR ISX DIESEL ENGINE. THE V-BAND CLAMP ASSEMBLY, PART NUMBERS Q187684, Q187685, AND Q187686, USED TO CONNECT THE INLET AND OUTLET CONE SECTIONS TO THE DIESEL OXIDATION CATALYST (DOC)/DIESEL PARTICULATE FILTER (DPF) INCLUDE A T-BOLT WHICH CAN FRACTURE AND FAIL WHEN SUBJECTED TO STRESS OR LOAD. A FRACTURE OR FAILURE OF THE T-BOLT MAY CAUSE THE CLAMP TO LOOSEN AND THE INLET OR OUTLET SECTIONS ATTACHED TO THE DOC/DPF HOUSING TO DISCONNECT.

Consequence:

IF THE INLET OR OUTLET SECTIONS DISCONNECT, HOT EXHAUST GASES CAN VENT PRIOR TO EXITING THE TAILPIPE, CREATING THE RISK OF COMBUSTION AND A FIRE. IF BOTH CLAMPS FAIL, THERE IS A RISK IN SOME APPLICATIONS THAT THE DOC/DPF HOUSING MAY DETACH COMPLETELY, CREATING A ROAD HAZARD.

Remedy:

ELDORADO IS WORKING WITH CUMMINS TO IDENTIFY AND NOTIFY THE OWNERS OF THE AFFECTED BUSES. REPAIRS WILL BE PERFORMED BY AUTHORIZED CUMMINS DEALERS, FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING SEPTEMBER 2011. OWNERS MAY CONTACT CUMMINS AT 1-812-377-5000 OR ELDORADO AT 1-909-591-9557.

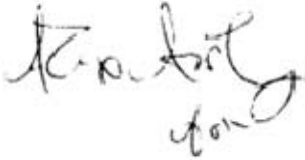
Notes:

CUMMINS' RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS C1154. 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).

As stated in your report, Cummins will be handling the remedy, and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.6 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Cummins's campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Willard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Richard Willard
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement