



SAFETY RECALL

MECHANICALLY FASTENED TEETER LEVER

NHTSA Recall No. 11E-010 & 11V-214

April 29, 2011

Dear Orion Bus Owner:

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

Vapor Bus International has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain buses equipped with Vapor Bus International Air-Open/Spring-Close Base Plate Assemblies incorporating Mechanically Fastened Teeter Levers and manufactured from March 1, 2007 to February 28, 2011. The cam plate may rotate relative to the hub of the teeter lever base, causing the attachment screws to fracture and permit the cam plate to partially or completely separate from the teeter lever base, **preventing the door latching mechanism from maintaining the rear passenger doors in a closed and locked condition.** A passenger leaning on the door might fall through the unlocked door and sustain injury, or, in the case of a moving bus, a passenger standing near the doors might be forced against the door with sufficient momentum to force the doors open, fall through the doors and sustain injury.

Based upon our records, **two (2) buses in your fleet**, as identified in the enclosed letter, **are affected.** For this reason, Vapor recommends that all Mechanically Fastened Teeter Lever Assemblies be modified to remedy this defect.

The remedy for the defect consists of replacing the existing cam plate with a new cam plate that incorporates mechanical stops to prevent the cam plate from rotating relative to the teeter lever base. If the teeter lever base has already sustained significant damage, the entire teeter lever assembly would be replaced.

Vapor Bus International will arrange for qualified technicians to modify your vehicles to remedy this defect at a mutually convenient time and location at no cost to your organization. A **Vapor Sales/Service representative will contact you within 30 days** from the date of this letter to make arrangements for the modification.

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Should you and the Vapor Sales/Service representative mutually agree that local circumstances favor your applying the remedy using your own vehicle maintenance personnel, Vapor Bus International will provide the necessary remediation components and instructions. Upon receipt of a form (to be provided with the parts) signed by an authorized manager and showing the date of completion of the work on each bus, Vapor Bus International will reimburse your organization at the rate of \$ 25.00 per bus.

If this defect caused repairs to be made to an affected vehicle prior to this notification, you may be entitled to reimbursement for the cost of those repairs on the basis described above.

If you have questions concerning this recall or problems in obtaining the necessary materials, please contact Vapor Bus International, attention Jim Pearson at 847-777-6450.

We regret any inconvenience that this action may cause. However, we are concerned about the safety of your customers and employees. If Vapor Bus International fails to provide the information and parts required to remedy this defect without charge and within a reasonable time, you may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 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 attention to this important matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Nicolle", enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

Bill Nicolle
Safety and Compliance Officer
Daimler Buses North America