



November 2011

Safety Recall Notice – 2008~2011 Orion VII Hybrid with Lithium Ion Energy Storage System (Li-Ion ESS)

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

Daimler Buses North America (DBNA) has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2008 ~ 2011 Orion VII hybrid electric buses containing Lithium Ion Energy Storage Systems ("Li-Ion ESS") as supplied by BAE Systems. In addition, certain 2006 Orion VII hybrid buses, converted to Li-Ion ESS, are also affected.

Over time, particulate debris can accumulate in the hybrid systems' Li-Ion ESS. Accumulated debris in conjunction with moisture can breach the electrical isolation of the high voltage battery pack. A conductive path can be created if the electrical isolation is breached at both ends of the battery, and could result in the unintentional discharge of the battery's stored energy, creating the risk of smoke, melting and charring of the Li-Ion ESS internal components, possibly resulting in a fire.

This is the first of two letters you will receive regarding this subject. This letter informs you of the general defect information. Currently BAE Systems is working to finalize a remedy and this is expected in January 2012.

A second notice will be sent to you by BAE Systems Inc which will provide further details regarding the remedy schedules for affected Orion VII hybrid buses with Li-Ion ESS that are in your fleet. If you have any concerns regarding the scheduling of the affected units in your fleet, please contact BAE Systems HybriDrive® Support at 1-800-576-3346 or at ps.hybridrivesupport@baesystems.com

If you no longer have the vehicle described in this letter, please help us to update our records by contacting DBNA using the contact information at the bottom of this letter. If you have paid to have this recall condition corrected prior to this notice, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall.

As a reminder, it is important that the documented procedures for maintenance and care of the Li-Ion ESS are followed for prevention of any possible safety related incident.

If you believe that DBNA has failed or is unable to remedy the defect in your vehicle, without charge and within a reasonable period of time, you may submit a complaint to:

Administrator

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC. 20590.

Or call the toll-free Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to

www.safercar.gov.

Thank you for your attention to this important safety matter.

Daimler Buses of North America

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