



November 28, 2011

Re: Slam latch issue, Recall 11E-026

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to notify you that The C. E. White Company has identified the potential defect issue related to the latch mechanism on school bus seats. Specifically, the seat cushion does not lock or latch per the requirement in FMVSS 571.222 5.1.5(a). This requirement indicates a 48.4 pound mass placed in the center of the cushion must "self" latch.

The C. E. White Company has filed a defect information report with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) notifying the Agency of the above potential issue. Ref: 11E-026. Note, this is not a Canadian (CMVSS) requirement.

Pursuant to NHTSA regulations, within five days of your receipt of this letter, you must submit a defect information report (see Title 49, Part 573 of the Code of Federal Regulations) to NHTSA covering all vehicles that you manufactured with the slam latch seats. These seats were manufactured by C.E. White from April 14, 2010 through June 7, 2011. The C. E. White Co. has the particular seat part numbers effected and will work with each OEM to help determine the vehicles effected.

The C. E. White Company has conducted root cause analysis and developed the solution to address this potential issue. It has been determined the friction between the latch cam mechanism and the locking wire causes the issue. By adding white lithium grease to the latch cam mechanism, the friction is reduced and the seat latches properly.

A service bulletin has been developed, see attached, to clearly describe the how and where to apply the grease.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause to you or your customers. Please contact The C. E. White Warranty Department, 419/492-2157, with any questions you may have on this matter.

Sincerely,

Todd Moyer
Director of Engineering
The C. E. White Co.