



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 29, 2012

MR. KERRY LEGG
VEHICLE SAFETY & COMPLIANCE MANAGER
CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
NEW FLYER INDUSTRIES
711 KERNAGHAN AVENUE
WINNIPEG, MB CANADA R2C 3T4

NVS-215et
12V-132

SUBJECT: LI-ION ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

DEAR MR. LEGG:

This letter serves to acknowledge New Flyer Industries' (New Flyer) 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:

NEW FLYER/XDE35/2011
NEW FLYER/XDE40/2010-2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-132

Mfg's Report Date: March 23, 2012

Components: ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: BATTERY: PROPULSION SYSTEM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 89

Summary:

NEW FLYER IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2011 XDE35 AND MODEL YEAR 2010-2012 XDE40 HEAVY DUTY TRANSIT BUSES. OVER TIME PARTICULATE DEBRIS CAN ACCUMULATE IN THE LITHIUM-ION ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (ESS), AND 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.

Consequence:

IF THIS CONDITION OCCURS, UNINTENTIONAL DISCHARGE OF THE BATTERY'S STORED ENERGY CAN RESULT, INCREASING THE RISK OF A FIRE.

Remedy:

NEW FLYER WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL INSTALL AN ELECTRICAL CONTACTOR AND MODIFY THE LI-ION ESS, FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2012. OWNERS MAY CONTACT NEW FLYER AT 1-204-224-6706.

Notes:

NEW FLYER'S SAFETY RECALL NUMBER IS R12-005. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO 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).

We have received your proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, or by email at Edison.Thompson@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 "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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