



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

July 13, 2012

MR. DAN C. ALLEN
CHIEF ENGINEER PRODUCT DESIGN
NORTH AMERICAN BUS INDUSTRIES
106 NATIONAL DRIVE
ANNISTON, AL 36207

NVS-215et
12V-324

SUBJECT: STEERING PITMAN ARM CONNECTION

DEAR MR. ALLEN:

This letter serves to acknowledge North American Bus Industries' (NABI), 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:
NABI/45CLFW/2003-2011

Mfg's Report Date: July 3, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-324

Components: STEERING: GEAR BOX: SHAFT PITMAN

Potential Number of Units Affected: 331

Summary:

NORTH AMERICAN BUS INDUSTRIES (NABI) IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2003-2011 45CLFW TRANSIT BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM JULY 1, 2003, THROUGH DECEMBER 1, 2011. THE VEHICLES MAY HAVE A LOOSE CONNECTION IN THE JOINT BETWEEN THE STEERING PITMAN ARM AND A TAPERED SPLINED SHAFT ON THE STEERING GEAR. THE SPLINES MAY WEAR OVER TIME RESULTING IN LOSS OF STEERING CONTROL.

Consequence:

A LOSS OF STEERING CONTROL COULD RESULT IN A CRASH, INCREASING THE RISK OF INJURY.

Remedy:

NABI WILL INSPECT AND REPAIR VEHICLES, AS NECESSARY, FREE OF CHARGE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT NABI AT 1-256-831-4296.

Notes:

NABI'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS 20123. 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).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. 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 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, 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 "Jen for" followed by a stylized signature.

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