



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 21, 2012

Mr. Matthew Sausaman
Operations Manager
Turtle Top
67819 State Road 15
Paris, IN 46553

NVS-215ET
12V-404

Subject: WHEELCHAIR LIFT/OUTER ROLL STOP LATCHING MECHANISM

Dear Mr. Sausaman:

This letter serves to acknowledge Turtle Top's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) 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:

TURTLE TOP/FORD ODYSSEY/2006-2010
TURTLE TOP/FORD VAN TERRA/2006-2010
TURTLE TOP/TERRA TRANSPORT/2006-2010

Mfr's Report Date: August 10, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-404

Components:

EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 577

Problem Description:

Turtle Top is recalling certain model year 2006-2010 transit buses equipped with Century-2 and/or Vista-2 wheelchair lifts. Over time with frequent use, the roll stop latches on the outer barrier may become bent or misaligned.

Consequence:

A wheelchair occupant may defeat or ride over the insufficiently latched roll stop. If this occurs when the lift platform is in an elevated position, the wheelchair's occupant could fall and sustain injury.

Remedy:

Turtle Top will notify owners, and the repairs will be performed by authorized Braun dealers free of charge. The recall is expected to begin during August 2012. Owners may contact Turtle Top at 574-831-4340.

Notes:

Owners 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 www.safercar.gov.

The information in your report suggests that Turtle Top may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. Please be reminded that under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. 49 CFR 573.6 Significant civil penalties can be assessed for this violation.

It is understood that Braun will be handling the quarterly reporting for this campaign.

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. Also, 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).

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian".

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