



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 20, 2012

Mr. BILL NICOLLE
DAIMLER BUSES NORTH AMERICA, INC.
350 HAZELHURST ROAD
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, 00 L5J 4T8

NVS-215ET
12V-447

Subject: Turbocharger/Compressor Wheel Failure (CNG Models)

Dear Mr. NICOLLE:

This letter serves to acknowledge DAIMLER BUSES NORTH AMERICA, INC.'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:

ORION/V/2004-2008
ORION/VII/2005-2006

Mfr's Report Date: September 11, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-447

Components:

ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING:ENGINE:OTHER FUEL TYPES:TURBO-CHARGER

Potential Number of Units Affected: 187

Problem Description:

Daimler Buses North America (DBNA) is recalling certain model year 2004-2008 Orion V and model year 2005-2006 Orion VII transit buses equipped with John Deere Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) turbocharged engines. The turbine or compressor wheel may fail, resulting in subsequent damage to the engine and/or an oil leak.

Consequence:

Failure of the turbine or compressor wheel may result in smoke, fire, and stalling, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

DBNA will notify owners. The remedy for this issue is still under development. The recall is scheduled to begin on October 31, 2012. Owners may contact Daimler Buses North America at 1-800-882-8054.

Notes:

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>.

We have received DBNA's 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:

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is expected owners will be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

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 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". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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