



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 19, 2012

Ms. Pascale Reyntjens
Compliance and Regulations
Van Hool N.V.
Bernard Van Hoolstraat 58
B-2500 Lier Koningshooikt
Belgium, 00 99999

NVS-215KS
12V-495

Subject: Prestolite Alternators/Missing Ground Cables

Dear Ms. Reyntjens:

This letter serves to acknowledge Van Hool N.V.'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:

VAN HOOL/C2045/2011-2012
VAN HOOL/T2140/2011
VAN HOOL/T2145/2011

Mfr's Report Date: October 10, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-495

Components:

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:ALTERNATOR/GENERATOR/REGULATOR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 138

Problem Description:

Van Hool is recalling certain model year 2011 and 2012 C2045, and model year 2011 T2140 and T2145 motorcoaches manufactured from September 2010 through September 2011, equipped with a Daimler DD13 engine without ground cables installed on the Prestolite AC172 alternators. Internal corrosion may cause the alternator components to overheat.

Consequence:

If the alternator overheats, the components may melt, possibly resulting in smoke and creating the potential risk of a vehicle fire.

Remedy:

Van Hool through their US agent, ABC Bus, Inc., will notify owners, and dealers will add external ground cables to the alternators, free of charge. The safety recall is expected to begin on, or about, October 28, 2012. Owners may contact the warranty administrator for ABC Bus, Inc. toll free at 1-877-427-7278.

Notes:

Van Hool's recall campaign number is P701. Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 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 Van Hool 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.

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).

As required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

Per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier name, contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the alternators.

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 Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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