



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 18, 2012

Mr. David Mihalick  
Standards Compliance Manager  
Champion Bus, Inc.  
419 West Pike Street  
Jackson Center, OH 45334

NVS-215KS  
12V-577

**Subject:** Brake Lights & Cruise Control Issues

Dear Mr. Mihalick:

This letter serves to acknowledge Champion Bus, 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:**  
CHAMPION/3035RE/2012-2013  
CHAMPION/CX300/2012  
CHAMPION/CX340/2011  
CHAMPION/CX380/2012-2013

**Mfr's Report Date:** December 7, 2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-577

**Components:**  
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM  
EXTERIOR LIGHTING: BRAKE LIGHTS  
VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL: CRUISE CONTROL

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 49

**Problem Description:**

Champion Bus is recalling certain model year 2011 through 2013 CX300, CX340, CX380, and 3035RE model transit buses manufactured from January 24, 2011, through November 7, 2012, built on Freightliner brand XB and XC custom chassis. The chassis are equipped with connectors for diode jumpers that may come loose, resulting in an open circuit. Two circuits are affected: The one that disengages the cruise control with brake pedal use, and the one that illuminates the brake lights with brake pedal use.

**Consequence:**

Failure of the cruise control to disengage when the brakes are applied may increase the risk of a vehicle crash. Without the brake lights illuminating when the brakes are applied, the driver's intent is not communicated, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Daimler Trucks (DTNA) will notify owners on behalf of Champion Bus, and Freightliner dealers will inspect the diode jumpers to make sure they are fully locked in place and will correct the vehicles as needed. The recall is expected to begin January 28, 2013. Owners should contact DTNA Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time Monday through Friday, e-mail address DTNA.Warranty.Campaigns@Daimler.com, or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) FTL-HELP after normal business hours.

**Notes:**

DTNA's recall campaign number is FL-634. 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](http://www.safercar.gov).

As stated in your report, we understand that DTNA will be conducting this safety recall and filing quarterly status reports.

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](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto: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 the first name being more prominent.

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