

RECEIVED

By Recall Management Division at 7:02 am, Jan 06, 2012

Elkhart Coach

**52807 County Road 7
Elkhart, Indiana 46514**

Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

January 5, 2012

(c)(2) Manufacturer: Elkhart Coach
52807 County Road 7
Elkhart, Indiana 46514
(574) 264-5179

Brands: Elkhart Coach

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Models affected:

ECI and ECII

Model Years: 2006-2010

Manufacture Dates: January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2010

Basis for Determining Population: All models built with certain Carrier Genv EM-1 . Specifically the recall process applies to the Carrier evaporator EM-1.

Component Manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacture: Carrier Transicold Division.

(c)(3) Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected: 125

(c)(4) Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Contain the Defect: 100%

(c)(5) Description of the Defect: In response to three incidents reported to Carrier, as described below, Carrier, in conjunction with Allied Motion and Deelphi determined that the EM-1 units may have a fuse holder defect, in which, due to time and temperature, the fuse holder may relax. Through relaxation of the fuse holder may relax. Through relaxation of the fuse holder contacts over time, a high-resistance connection may result, possibly producing arcing. The arcing may produce melting of the fuse holder or ignition of the fuse holder, which may cause flame or smoke to propagate within the EM-1 unit. A PowerPoint slide with photographs and a description of the problem is attached at **Appendix B**.

(c)(6) Chronology of Principle Events:

First incident

On August 20, 2010, Carrier was notified of a thermal event in an EM-1 unit installed a school bus located in Thonotosassa, Fl. (Hillsborough school district). The thermal event occurred on July 28, 2010, with Carrier, had a replacement motor of unknown origin, installed on a date uncertain. Damage to the EM-1 unit occurred with smoke residue coating the rear section of of the bus.

Elkhart Coach

52807 County Road 7
Elkhart, Indiana 46514

Second incident

On September 15, 2010, a second thermal event in an EM-1 unit installed on a school bus located in Portland, In. (Jay School District) was reported to Carrier. The EM-1 unit was installed on August 11, 2008. Carrier confirmed that the EM-1 unit was equipped with an originally Allied Motion motor with a Delphi Pack-Con 3 fuse holder. Damage to the unit occurred with minimal smoke residue present in the rear of the bus.

Third incident

On January 4, 2011, Carrier was notified of a third thermal event in an EM-1 unit Installed on a school bus located in Daytona Beach, Fl. (Volusia County School District) that occurred on January 3, 2011. The EM-1 was built in 2003, however, it contained a replacement motor of undermined manufacture. Damage to the unit occurred with significant thermal and smoke damage to the rear, roof mounted escape hatch, with smoke residue present on the rear seats.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: Delphi has conducted independent testing of the Pack Con 3 fuse holder and confirmed that melting of the fuse can occur with time, temperature and vibration.

(c)(8) Remedial program:

Carrier will notify bus manufacturers; carrier authorized dealers as well as, to the extent known by Carrier, owners of record which purchased the affected units. Carrier is working with the bus manufacturers and Carrier authorized dealers to identify owners

Estimated Dealer Notification Date: All dealers will be notified by Carrier with the defect to this date. Elkhart Coach has supplied Dealer information and contact information to Carrier to ensure we follow NHTSA guide lines and Federal law. All letters will be mailed by 1/13/2012.

Estimated Owner Notification Date: All owners have been notified by Carrier with the defect to this date. Elkhart Coach has supplied Owner information and contact information to Carrier to ensure we follow NHTSA guide lines and Federal law. All letters will be mailed by 1/13/2012.

Elkhart Coach

52807 County Road 7

Elkhart, Indiana 46514

Reimbursement Plan: Parts and labor for the repair will be at no charge through the Carrier warranty department.

(c)(9) Communication sent to dealers and owners: A copy of Elkhart Coach's **dealer** notification letters been submitted with this report.

(c)(10) Copy of proposed owner notification letter: A copy of Elkhart Coach's **owner** notification letter has been submitted with this report.

(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number: #11E-003

Carrier will provide supplemental reports to NHTSA regarding the details and implementation of the recall. If you have any questions, please contact me at (860) 674-3304 or Muriel.makharine@carrier.utc.com

Sincerely,

Mike Sweitzer

Elkhart Coach a Division of Forest River, Inc.