

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports¹

On February 24, 2012, Starcraft Bus [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 571.222 5.1.4) exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports.

Date this report was prepared: March 2, 2012

11E-049

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): _____

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Starcraft Bus _____

Division of Forest River Inc. _____

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Vincent Cline _____

Engineering Manager – School Bus Division _____

Telephone Number: 800-347-7440 ext 103 **Fax No.:** 547-642-7816

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Vincent Cline

Engineering Manager – School Bus Division

Signed:



¹ Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Jennifer Timian at (202) 366-0209, by FAX at (202) 366-7882, or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Starcraft Bus

Model Years Involved: 2010 - 2011

Model(s): Prodigy / Quest

Production Dates: Beginning: 10/11/2010 **Ending:** 1/3/2011

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

This recall involves Ford and GM Prodigy and Quest models produced from 10/11/2010 through 1/3/2011.

This recall does not include the Starcraft commercial products.

Make(s): _____ **Model Years Involved:** _____ **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): _____ **Model Years Involved:** _____ **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Vehicles equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Vehicles of all Vehicles manufactured during that time period.

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
Prodigy	2010	7
Quest	2010	12
Prodigy	2011	0
Quest	2011	3

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: _____ 22

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

The recall population was determined by the ship dates of the manufactured seats from C.E. White and cross referenced with the dates that units were pulled off-line.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

The C. E. White Company has identified the potential defect issue related to the Aft push requirement on school bus seats. Specifically, some 39" seats potentially do not meet the aft push requirement per FMVSS 571.222 5.1.4. This requirement indicates 316W (or 948 joules) of energy must be absorbed in deflecting the seat back the noted distance.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

The C. E. White Company has conducted root cause analysis and developed the solution to address this potential issue. It has been determined that some seats have the wrong seat frame used to assemble the seat. The proper seat frame has two extra inserts, but by adding an aisle side channel, the frame structure is strengthened to meet the required energy.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

The C.E.White Company

417 N. Kibler Street

New Washington, Ohio 44854

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Todd Moyer

Director of Engineering

The C.E. White Company

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

Testing was performed by MGA research lab. Information was sent to The C.E. White Company and they followed up with an investigation and submitted a Part 573 report. Ref. 11E-049

V. Identify the Remedy

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.

The C. E. White Company has developed a service bulletin to show how to repair the seats.

9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

10. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

A written procedure for a field fix has been completed by C.E. White. Starcraft will send that documentation to dealers pending approval from NHTSA.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

11. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) or by E-Mail to RMD.ODI@dot.gov for review prior to mailing.

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.