



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 28, 2013

Mr. Deny Bertrand
Regulatory Compliance Manager
Prevost Cars, Inc.
35 Boulevard Gagnon
STE-Claire, Quebec -Canada, 00 G0R 2V0

NVS-215KS
13V-015

Subject: Automatic Fire Detection and Suppression System

Dear Mr. Bertrand:

This letter serves to acknowledge Prevost Cars, 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:

PREVOST/H3/2009-2013
PREVOST/MTH XLII-45E/2009-2013
PREVOST/X3/2009-2013

Mfr's Report Date: January 15, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-015

Components:

EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 261

Problem Description:

Prevost is recalling certain model year 2009-2013 H3, X3, and MTH XLII-45E coach buses manufactured June 29, 2009, through June 4th, 2012 and equipped with an Automatic Fire Detection and Suppression System (AFSS). There is the possibility that the AFSS could unintentionally activate due to wear of the linear thermal detection cable.

Consequence:

An activation of the AFSS causes the vehicle to come to an unplanned stop. This could increase the risk of a vehicle crash or personal injury.

Remedy:

Prevost will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and repair the linear thermal detector by adding a protective sheath, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin during February 2013. Owners may contact Prevost at 1-418-883-2888 x 6558.

Notes:

Prevost's campaign recall number is SR13-03. 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 Prevost may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA, such as when you filed recall 12V-435 for the same issue. 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 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Timian', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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