



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

February 14, 2014

Ms. Janet Kercher-Dudley  
Standards Engineer  
Turtle Top  
67819 State Road 15  
New Paris, IN 46553

NVS-215KS  
14V-019

**Subject:** Alternator Wiring Harness may be Pinched

Dear Ms. Kercher-Dudley:

This letter serves to acknowledge Turtle Top'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:**

TURTLE TOP/FORD LIMO COACH/2010-2012  
TURTLE TOP/FORD ODYSSEY/2010-2013  
TURTLE TOP/FORD VAN TERRA/2010-2013

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 11, 2014

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 14V-019

**Components:**

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:ALTERNATOR/GENERATOR/REGULATOR

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 453

**Problem Description:**

Turtle Top is recalling certain model year 2010-2012 Limo Coach, 2010-2013 Odyssey and Van Terra, 2010-2011 Odyssey LT, 2011-2012 Odyssey XL MPV, 2011-2013 Odyssey XL, 2011 Odyssey MPV and 2010 and 2012 Van Terra transit buses built on Ford chassis equipped with a Ford 5.4L or 6.8L engine and a Trans/Air-brand air compressor. In the affected vehicles, depending on the routing of the alternator harness, and the orientation of the heater hose spring clamp at the front of the intake manifold, the alternator harness may be pinched between the spring clamp and the air conditioner compressor mounting bracket.

**Consequence:**

The charging system may fail which could lead to the vehicle stalling while driving, increasing the risk of a crash. Additionally, the spring clamp could pierce both the positive and negative wires of the alternator harness creating a short circuit which could result in a fire.

**Remedy:**

Turtle Top will notify owners, and Trans/Air dealers will inspect the vehicles, correct the clamp installation and repair and reroute the alternator harness, as needed, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Customers may contact Turtle Top at 1-574-831-4340.

**Notes:**

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).

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).

We understand that Trans/Air will be handling the quarterly reporting for this campaign. Please be reminded that as the vehicle manufacturer, Turtle Top is ultimately responsible for conducting an adequate safety recall campaign of its vehicles. Accordingly, if this safety recall campaign is not successful, the agency may require Turtle Top to conduct a follow-up notification and conduct additional quarterly reporting.

On August 20, 2013, NHTSA announced new changes to the requirements governing safety recalls. Some of these requirements are already in effect. Please ensure your company will be in compliance with each requirement on, or before, its respective effective date. For a summary of the requirements and their effective dates please click on the "New!" link at <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Manufacturers>.

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,



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