



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 4, 2014

Mr. Matthew Matlach
Marathon Coach, Inc.
91333 Coburg Industrial Way
Coburg, OR 97408

NVS-215KS
14V-041

Subject: Battery Equalizers or DC-DC Converters:Fire Risk

Dear Mr. Matlach:

This letter serves to acknowledge Marathon Coach, 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/H3/2001-2013
PREVOST/XL/2001-2013

Mfr's Report Date: February 5, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-041

Components:

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:BATTERY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 450

Problem Description:

Marathon Coach, Inc. (Marathon) is recalling certain model year 2001-2013 Marathon Conversions Prevost XL, and H3 motorcoaches equipped with Sure Power-brand battery equalizers or DC-DC converters containing a particular epoxy sealing, aka 'potting', compound. The specific potting compound used in the subject products for insulation was found to be capable of conducting electricity after being exposed to heat.

Consequence:

Once electrically conductive, the material is capable of melting and burning, increasing the risk of a fire.

Remedy:

Marathon will notify owners, and Marathon service centers will replace the equalizers or converters, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in March 2014. Owners may contact Marathon at 1-352-588-4500.

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.

Marathon's defect notice states that 445 vehicles are affected, containing 450 defective components. Please verify this to be accurate.

We have received Marathon's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:


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.

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 or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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