



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 8, 2014

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

NVS-215KS
14V-651

Subject: Wheelchair Lift - Platform Cracking

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/ODYSSEY/2006-2014
TURTLE TOP/ODYSSEY LT/2008-2009, 2011
TURTLE TOP/ODYSSEY XL/2007-2008, 2010-2012
TURTLE TOP/TERRA TRANSPORT/2008, 2012
TURTLE TOP/VAN TERRA/2007-2008, 2013

Mfr's Report Date: October 16, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-651

Components:

EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 276

Problem Description:

Turtle Top is recalling certain model year 2006-2014 Odyssey, 2008-2009, 2011 Odyssey LT, and 2007-2008, 2010-2012 Odyssey XL, 2008, 2012 Terra Transport, and 2007-2008, 2013 Van Terra transit buses equipped with certain model S2005, S2010, S5005, S5010, S5505, and S5510 wheelchair lifts manufactured by Ricon Corporation. The platform side plate of the affected wheelchair lifts may crack.

Consequence:

If the platform side plates crack, the lift platform can separate from the lift and come to rest against the vehicle's lift door. When the doors are opened, the platform may fall out, increasing the risk of injury to the lift operator.

Remedy:

Turtle Top will notify owners to take buses to a Ricon dealer or service center who will install supplemental platform support bumpers. Any platform that has already started cracking will be replaced, free of charge. The recall began November 18, 2014. Owners may contact Turtle Top customer service at 1-574-831-4340 or Ricon customer service at 1-800-322-2884.

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.

We have received Turle Top's proposed owner notification letter and have returned edits.

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).

The information in your report suggests that Turtle Top may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. 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.

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,



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