



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 2, 2015

Debbie Morse
Champion Bus, Inc.
331 Graham Road
P.O. Box 158
Imlay City, MI 48444

NVS-215MR
14V-821

Subject: Imperial Triangle Warning Signs/FMVSS 125

Dear Debbie Morse:

This letter serves to acknowledge Champion Bus, 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:

CHAMPION/AMERICAN CRUSADER/2012-2014
CHAMPION/CHALLENGER/2012-2014
CHAMPION/CRUSADER/2012-2014
CHAMPION/CTS-FE/2012-2014
CHAMPION/CTS-RE/2012-2014
CHAMPION/DEFENDER/2012-2014
CHAMPION/EZ-STREET/2012-2014
CHAMPION/HC AMERICAN/2012-2014
CHAMPION/HCAC/2012-2014
CHAMPION/LF TRANSPORT/2012-2014
CHAMPION/M1235/2012-2014
CHAMPION/PLATINUM SHUTTLE/2012-2014
CHAMPION/STACKED RAIL/2012-2014
FEDERAL COACH/PREMIER/2012-2014
FEDERAL COACH/SPIRIT/2012-2014

Mfr's Report Date: December 22, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-821

Components:
EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 773

Problem Description:

Champion Bus, Inc. (Champion) is recalling certain model year 2012-2014 American Crusader, Challenger, Crusader, CTS-FE, CTS-RE, Defender, EZ-Street, HC American, HCAC, LF Transport, M1235, Platinum Shuttle, Stacked Rail, and Federal Coach Premier, and Spirit transit buses manufactured January 1, 2012, to October 1, 2014, equipped with certain triangle warning signs manufactured by Imperial Supplies, LLC. Test reports indicate that the triangle warning signs, labeled C&J, may reflect an inadequate amount of light. As such, these triangle warning kits fail to comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 125, "Warning devices."

Consequence:

Warning triangles that do not properly reflect light may fail to warn others that a vehicle is parked, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Champion will notify owners to inspect their triangles for production dates between April 2011, to April 2014, and the affected triangles will be replaced, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin January 5, 2015. Owners may contact Champion customer service at 1-810-724-6474.

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.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

We have received Champion'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 required in Part 573.6(c)(7), in the case of a noncompliance, please provide the test results and other information used to determine the existence of the noncompliance. Include the date of each test and observation that indicated that a noncompliance might or did exist. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at 202-366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@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