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14V-335
(9 pages)



Timothy J. Nalepka
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June 18, 2014

BY EMAIL AND
BY CERTIFIED MAIL

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS – 215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: PART 573 NOTICE RE DRIVESHAFT CONTAINMENT

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have enclosed Motor Coach Industries, Inc.'s ("MCI") Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report. MCI will send its proposed customer notification letter, draft Service Bulletin 414, and sample envelope and mailing label shortly under separate cover.

In the interim, please acknowledge receipt of MCI's report and advise NHTSA's docket number for this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,
MOTOR COACH INDUSTRIES, INC.

By: Timothy J. Nalepka
Senior Vice President &
General Counsel

Enclosure



Motor Coach Industries

200 East Oakton Street | Des Plaines, IL 60018 | 847-285-2000 Phone | 866 624 2622 Toll Free

www.mcicoach.com | www.setra-coaches.com



Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

On June 11, 2014, Motor Coach Industries, Inc. decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: June 18, 2014

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable):

MCI Service Bulletin 414

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

**Motor Coach Industries, Inc.
200 East Oakton St
Des Plaines, IL 60018**

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

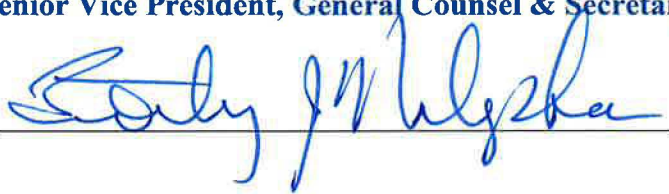
John Paul Pelletier, Director Engineering

Telephone Number: (204) 287-4892 Fax No.: (204) 478-3018

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

**Timothy J. Nalepka
Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary**

Signed:



I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): MCI

Model Years and Models Involved	Models		
Model Year	102DL3	D4505	Total
1993	155	-	155
1994	145		145
1995	23		23
2006		6	6
2008		7	7
Total	323	13	336

Production Dates:

	PRODUCTION DATES	
MODEL	BEGINNING	ENDING
102DL3	Nov. 1992	Jan. 1995
D4505	Jun. 2005	Apr. 2008

VIN Range: See table attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Descriptive information which characterizes /distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

The recalled vehicles have the following distinguishing features:

- 1. a driveshaft with a compressed length of 30 inches or less; and**
- 2. a steerable trailing axle equipped with a system that changes the tag axle caster when the vehicle is in reverse travel; and**
- 3. no electronic stability control (ESC).**

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided

above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

	PRODUCTION DATES		APPROX. % OF RECALLED VEHICLES TO TOTAL PRODUCTION
MODEL	BEGINNING	ENDING	
102DL3	Nov. 1992	Jan. 1995	55%
D4505	Jun. 2005	Apr. 2008	0.7%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

<u>MODELS</u>	<u>MODEL YEARS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF VEHICLES POTENTIALLY INVOLVED</u>
102DL3	1993, 1994, 1995	323
D4505	2006, 2008	13

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 336 (325 vehicles were sold to US customers; 11 vehicles were sold to Canadian customers)

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

All vehicles identified in Exhibit A.

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

The recalled population was determined by identifying all vehicles manufactured with the following distinguishing features:

1. a driveshaft with a compressed length of 30 inches or less; and
2. a steerable trailing axle equipped with a system that changes the tag axle caster when the vehicle is in reverse travel; and
3. no electronic stability control (ESC).

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

On vehicles equipped with a driveshaft with a compressed length of 30 inches or less, and in the event of a driveshaft decoupling from the transmission due to a universal joint failure while the vehicle is in operation, the potential exists for the driveshaft to escape its containment. If this occurs, the flailing driveshaft may strike the trailing axle tie rod and components of the trailing axle locking system, potentially causing the trailing axle steering and caster locking mechanisms to unlock. If this occurs and the driver makes a hard braking application resulting in the drive axle brakes locking up, the driver may experience loss of steering control of the vehicle.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

A flailing driveshaft that decouples from the transmission, escapes its containment, and strikes the trailing axle tie rod and steering and caster locking mechanisms.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

If the conditions described above occur and the driver makes a hard braking application resulting in the drive axle brakes locking up, the driver may experience loss of steering control of the vehicle

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

Performing recommended inspection and maintenance procedures may reveal an impending driveshaft universal joint failure.

If the driveshaft decouples from the transmission, there would be significant noise in the rear of the vehicle from the driveshaft striking mechanical components, and noticeable loss of motive power to the vehicle. The tag axle indicator light in the driver's area may indicate the loss of tag axle locking.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

N/A

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

N/A

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principal events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

On or about March 21, 2012, NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation ("ODI") opened a Preliminary Evaluation (PE 12-007) to investigate whether driveshaft failures could result in a loss of vehicle control in certain MCI vehicles.

On or about September 13, 2012, ODI opened an Engineering Analysis (EA 12-007) to further study whether driveshaft failures could result in a loss of vehicle control in certain MCI vehicles.

MCI provided voluminous documentation and data in response to ODI's information requests issued as part of ODI's investigation, and engaged in several discussions with ODI over the course of the latter's investigation, including a meeting at the VRTC on May 8, 2014. As a result of discussions with ODI, MCI decided to conduct a recall of the vehicles identified in I.2.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

MCI will provide at no cost to customers the parts and labor to add a secondary drive shaft hoop forward of the tag axle support structure. The remedy will be defined in detail in MCI Service Bulletin 414, which will be supplied under separate cover when completed.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

The secondary driveshaft hoop is designed to contain the driveshaft should it decouple from the transmission while the vehicle is traveling in a forward direction, preventing potential damage to components of the trailing axle tie rod and tie rod locking system.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

MCI has not manufactured any vehicles with the recall-distinguishing features specified in I.2. other than the recall population. In the event that MCI were to do so in the future, MCI would install the same or a comparable secondary driveshaft loop as will be added to the recalled vehicles.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

9. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

MCI will issue a customer notification letter and Service Bulletin 414 by July 18, 2014.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

10. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

MCI's proposed customer notification letter and Service Bulletin 414 will follow.

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.

EXHIBIT A

44978 - 44991	44999 - 45000	45004 - 45005	45023 - 45024	45055 - 45058	45064 - 45067
45072 - 45075	45082	45085	45091	45094	45097
45100	45103	45106	45109	45115	45121
45124	45127	45130	45133	45152	45156
45159	45162	45165	45168	45171	45174
45177	45183	45186	45192	45195	45198
45201	45204	45211	45220	45222	45224
45226	45228	45232	45243	45245	45251
45253	45255	45257	45274	45276	45278
45280	45282	45289	45292	45295	45298
45305	45308	45314	45319	45322	45325
45336	45340	45354	45360	45363	45366
45370	45372	45375	45381	45387	45393
45396	45399	45401	45403	45406	45412
45415	45418	45439	45442	45451	45456
45459	45462	45465	45468	45470	45473
45476	45479	45482	45485	45492	45495
45498	45501	45504	45507	45510	45513
45516	45519	45522	45525	45528	45531
45534	45536	45539	45542	45545	45548
45551	45576	45579	45585	45591	45594
45599	45602	45610	45644	45692	45695
45713	45736	45771	45790	45793	45796
45799	45819	45822	45825	45828	45831
45834	45849	45852	45855	45858	45861
45864	45867	45877	45892	45901	45905
45918	45921	45937	45940	45950	45953
45959	45976	45991	46089	46091	46093
46095	46097	46106	46109	46112	46115
46118	46121	46124	46140	46143	46146
46148	46154	46156	46158	46160	46162
46164	46166	46169	46171	46173	46175
46177	46183	46185	46187	46189	46191
46193	46195	46197	46199	46201	46203
46205	46207	46209	46211	46214	46216

46218	46220	46222	46234	46236	46238
46240	46242	46244	46247	46250	46253
46256	46259	46262	46264	46267	46270
46284	46294	46296	46298	46300	46302
46306	46308	46310	46312	46316	46318
46320	46322	46326	46328	46330	46332
46348	46374	46380	46382	46422	46424
46428	46430	46432	46434	46436	46438
46474	46500	46502	46504	46506	46569
46571	46573	46667	46689 - 46690	46724 - 46728	46789
46878 - 46879	46914 - 46915	46917 - 46918	46921	46954 - 46955	46973
47039 - 47040	47042	41738 - 47139	47141 - 47142	47144 - 47145	47147 - 47148
47150 - 47151	56773 - 56775	57046	57203 - 57204	58311 - 58313	
58337 - 58338	58582 - 58583				