



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

July 29, 2016

Ms. Pascale Reyntjens
Compliance and Regulations
Van Hool N.V.
Bernard Van Hoolstraat 58
B-2500 Lier Koningshooikt
Belgium 99999

NEF-150KS
15V-743

Subject: Air Brake Release Timing/FMVSS 121

Dear Ms. Reyntjens:

This letter serves to acknowledge Van Hool N.V.'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:

VAN HOOL/TD925/2015-2016
VAN HOOL/TDX25/2015-2016

Mfr's Report Date: November 6, 2015

NHTSA Campaign Number: 15V-743

Components:

SERVICE BRAKES, AIR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 48

Problem Description:

Van Hool is recalling certain model year 2015-2016 TD925 vehicles manufactured May 13, 2015, to October 22, 2015, and 2015-2016 TDX25 vehicles manufactured December 23, 2014, to October 22, 2015. In the affected vehicles, the air brakes may take an excessive amount of time to release. As such, the vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 121, Air Brake Systems."

Consequence:

A delay in releasing the brake could cause the brakes to drag and cause premature wear of the brake linings. Under certain conditions, excessive brake drag could contribute to heat build-up within the foundation brake assembly resulting in degradation of braking power. Heat buildup in the foundation of the brake assembly can result in a fire. Degradation of braking power can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Van Hool's designated agent, ABC Bus, Inc. (ABC Bus), will notify Van Hool motorcoach owners, and ABC Bus dealers will correct the air brake connections, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in July 2016. Owners may contact ABC Bus at 1-877-427-7278. Van Hool's number for this recall is P786.

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 Van Hool'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.

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