



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 29, 2016

Mr. Bill Nicolle
Compliance Officer
Daimler Buses North America
160 Base Road
Oriskany, NY 13424-0748

NVS-215KS
16V-017

Subject: Missing J-Bracket Welds on Bus Operator Seat

Dear Mr. Nicolle:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Buses North America'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:

ORION/VII/2010-2012

Mfr's Report Date: January 15, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16V-017

Components:

SEATS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 408

Problem Description:

Daimler Buses North America (DBNA) is recalling certain model year 2010-2012 Orion VII transit buses manufactured April 5, 2010, to October 31, 2012, equipped with certain Recaro Ergo-M Commercial Bus Driver Seats. The affected seats have J-Brackets that may be missing welds which could allow the seat belt anchorage assembly to separate from the J-Bracket.

Consequence:

If the seatbelt anchorage assembly separates from the J-Bracket, the bus driver may not be properly restrained in the event of a crash, increasing their risk of injury.

Remedy:

DBNA will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the seats to determine if welds are missing. Any J-Bracket that is missing welds will be removed and replaced, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin March 1, 2016. Owners may contact DBNA customer service at 1-905-403-1111.

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 DBNA'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.

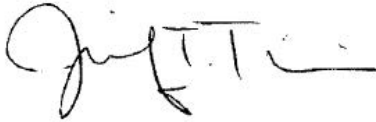
Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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