

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**16V-017****Manufacturer Name :** Daimler Buses North America**Submission Date :** JAN 18, 2016**NHTSA Recall No. :** 16V-017**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Buses North America

Address : 165 Base Road

Oriskany NY 13424-0748

Company phone : 416-624-3558

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 408

Estimated percentage with defect : 1

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2010-2012 Orion VII

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : 2010~2012 model year Orion VII transit buses equipped with RECARO ERGO-M commercial bus operator's seat.

Production Dates : APR 05, 2010 - OCT 31, 2012

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : 1VHHH3P22A6706104

End : 1VHGH6W2XA6707158

 Not sequential VINs

Begin : 1VHFD3G53C6708007

End : 1VHHF3V23C6708438

 Not sequential VINs**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : As per RECARO 15E-088:

Certain "J-Brackets" in the RECARO ERGO-M commercial bus operator's seats may be missing welds.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : As per RECARO 15E-088:

If the J-Bracket is missing welds, it may separate from the seatbelt anchorage assembly and the bus driver may not be properly restrained in the event of a crash increasing the risk of injury.

Description of the Cause : Not provided by RECARO in 15E-088.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : RECARO/Johnson Controls Inc

Address : 5757 N Green Bay Ave.

Milwaukee WISCONSIN 53209

Country : United States

Chronology :

As per RECARO 15E-088;

April 2010, Johnson Controls Inc. (JCI) received its first shipment of J-Brackets from a new supplier, Mercury Metal Forming.

During certification testing for a design change in the J-Coach floor conducted by Motor Coach Industries on October 14, 2015, the J-Bracket assembly in an ERGO-M commercial bus operator's seat did not hold the requisite load when tested. Upon inspection, it was observed that the seat belt buckle bracket had separated from the J-Bracket assembly and that the underside of the J-Bracket was missing welds and contained three welds instead of five.

October 15, 2015, JCI inspected components in inventory at the Recaro warehouse and found that an additional six units were missing two welds and that one completed seat was missing two welds.

October 16 - 23, 2015, JCI investigated the matter. The internal investigation found that Mercury Metal Forming had deviated from the welding control plan without JCI's approval.

As part of its investigation, JCI also tested the overall weld quality and found that J-Brackets with all five welds exceeded FMVSS testing standards.

October 26, 2015, JCI decided to conduct a safety recall.

Jan.06, 2016 - RECARO notified Daimler Buses of North America (DBNA) of the defect and supplied affected purchase order numbers supplied to DBNA during the suspect period of seat production. DBNA initiated and investigation into possible affected Orion transit buses via manufacturing records.

Jan.15, 2016 - DBNA determined a safety defect existed in certain Orion VII transit buses.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : RECARO/Johnson Controls has provided the remedy procedure which will consist of an inspection to determine the correct number of welds (five) are present. If all five (5) welds are present, no further action is required. If less than five (5) welds are found, the J-bracket will be removed and replaced.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy equipment will contain the correct number (five) welds on the J-bracket.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Information not provided by RECARO in 15E-088.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : DBNA will notify affected Orion VII transit bus owners and provide the RECARO inspection/repair procedure.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 01, 2016 - MAR 01, 2016

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 01, 2016 - MAR 01, 2016

* NR - Not Reported