

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

17V-207

Manufacturer Name : Motor Coach Industries

Submission Date : NOV 27, 2017

NHTSA Recall No. : 17V-207

Manufacturer Recall No. : SB 452C



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Motor Coach Industries

Address : 200 East Oakton Street
Des Plaines IL 60018

Company phone : 1-800-241-2947

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 1,165

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2013-2016 MCI J4500

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : MCI model year 2014 - 2016 J4500 vehicles with non-shot peened sway bars.

Production Dates : JUN 03, 2013 - APR 27, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2014-2017 MCI J4500

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : MCI J4500 motor coaches built with independent front suspension, and with sway bars that were used prior to MCI's new design implemented in production in June 2017.

Production Dates : FEB 03, 2014 - JUN 20, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Under certain service conditions, the front sway bar may potentially fail, cracking at one of the bushing/clamp locations.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A broken sway bar, if undetected by the driver, could potentially detach from the vehicle and adversely affect vehicle handling.

Description of the Cause : Fatigue failure of the sway bar under certain service conditions

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Cracking of the sway bar may be seen during prescribed maintenance inspections of the vehicle.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR
Address : NR
NR
Country : NR

Chronology :

MCI started production of the J Coach with independent front suspension that included the affected sway bar in August 2014. MCI subsequently received reports of 69 sway bar failures occurring at various mileage intervals, but primarily between approximately 70,000 to 90,000 miles. Previously, the sway bar on an MCI coach typically lasted the life of the vehicle. In June 2016, MCI began using shot-peened sway bars in June 2016, after durability testing indicated improved sway bar durability with the addition of shot peening. To date, MCI is not aware of any failures of shot-peened sway bars. After discussions with NHTSA's ODI, MCI decided to conduct a recall to replace the non-shot peened sway bars in affected vehicles.

AMENDMENT TO NOTIFICATION

After implementing the shot-peened sway bar remedy, MCI became aware that in certain service conditions the shot-peened sway bar may still fail. MCI has received reports of 3 incidents where this has occurred. Accordingly, MCI is amending the recall to implement a newly-designed sway bar in an expanded recalled vehicle population that consists of the original recalled vehicle population (i.e., those built without the shot-peened sway bar), as well as the vehicles built with shot-peened sway bars prior to MCI implementing the new sway bar design in production in June 2017.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : MCI will replace the sway bar assembly with the new design at no cost to owners.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The new sway bar design will eliminate sway bar failures occurring due to fatigue.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : In June 2016, MCI began using shot-peened sway bars in June 2016, after durability testing indicated improved sway bar durability with the addition of shot peening.

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Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : MCI anticipates issuing its customer notification letter and service bulletin with the new sway bar design within one week after NHTSA approval of MCI's customer notification documents.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 15, 2017 - DEC 15, 2017

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 15, 2017 - DEC 15, 2017

* NR - Not Reported