

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 17V-685

**Manufacturer Name :** Eldorado National- California, Inc.**Submission Date :** OCT 27, 2017**NHTSA Recall No. :** 17V-685**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Eldorado National- California, Inc.

Address : 9670 GALENA STREET

RIVERSIDE CA 92509

Company phone : 909-591-9557

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 272

Estimated percentage with defect : 75 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2017-2017 Eldorado National CA. Axess, E-Z Rider, XHF, Arrivo

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM &amp; HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

**Descriptive Information :** Per Adient-Recaro plc Equipment Recall 17E-035: Certain Recaro Commercial Bus Driver Seats and Seat Belt Service Kits manufactured between December 19, 2016 and June 27, 2017 installed as original equipment in Eldorado Low Floor buses, sold as after market parts, or distributed under warranty. The safety defect only exists in a specific buckle design manufactured during the specified date range.

Production Dates : DEC 20, 2016 - JUL 31, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

**Description of the Defect :** Per Adient-Recaro plc Equipment Recall 17E-035: Certain Recaro Commercial Bus Driver Seats and Seat Belt Service Kits manufactured between December 19, 2016 and June 27, 2017 may experience a "pre-locked buckle" condition where an internal mechanism in the seat belt buckle becomes stuck in the locked position. The condition blocks the seat belt Latch-Plate (tongue) from being inserted into the buckle, preventing the operator from physically latching the seat belt. The affected seats and seat belt assemblies were installed as original equipment in Eldorado Low Floor buses, sold as after market parts, or distributed under warranty.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** If the seat belt is unable to latch, this may lead some drivers to operate the vehicle without the seat belt secured, increasing the risk of injury in the event of a crash.

**Description of the Cause :** When the Latch-Plate (tongue) is over-traveled, the seat belt latch ejector can get trapped under the micro switch adapter causing a "pre-locked" condition.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** The seat belt Latch-Plate (tongue) is blocked, preventing the operator from physically securing the seat belt in the latched condition.

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

**Name :** Recaro Automotive Seating - Adient plc  
**Address :** 4120 Luella Lane  
Auburn Hills MICHIGAN 48326  
**Country :** United States

## Chronology :

6/29/17 - Recaro sent an email to instruct Eldorado to swap out 12 buckles for Sacramento Airport in the field. This was in response to a field complaint from Sacramento.

07/07/17 - Recaro shipped Eldorado 50 replacement buckles for potential locking buckles.

07/24/17 - Recaro requested if we had received the new buckles. 07/31/17 - Eldorado completed inspections and 42 replacements in-house.

09/06/17 - Denver Airport sent an email stating that the 45 new buses they received had defects with a driver seat belt buckle.

10/20/17 - Eldorado received a copy of the Gillig 573 recall report from PACE Transit in Chicago and questioned if their buses fell under a similar recall. At that point, Eldorado, called Recaro and asked the question. An email was sent that day to Eldorado from Recaro with all the 17E-035 recall information.

10/27/17 - Eldorado files 573 safety recall report.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** The defective seat belt assembly will be replaced at no cost to the owner with a remedy component that has a revised buckle housing.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** The recalled components are certain Recaro brand Commercial Bus Driver Seats. The remedy component contains a new buckle design that has raised lip and longer cover that will limit the distance the latch plate tongue can travel within the buckle assembly, preventing the "pre-locked" condition.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** 07/31/17 - Eldorado had inspected and replaced any defective buckles in its production line. Eldorado was not aware that this was a NHTSA RECALL at this point.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Recall notices will be sent as soon as NHTSA approves the draft letter.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 27, 2017 - DEC 22, 2017

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 27, 2017 - DEC 22, 2017

\* NR - Not Reported