

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

<Date>

Gillig Campaign ID Number: 17V-519

This notice applies to your order number(s) [insert information]

<Name>

<Title>

<Property>

<Address>

<City>, <State> <ZIP>

Attn: <Name>

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Gillig has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the Seat Belts of certain Recaro Commercial Bus Driver Seats, Part Shipments, and Service Kits sold or provided under warranty between December 20, 2016 and August 22, 2017. The affected seat belts experience a “pre-locked buckle” condition that prevents the operator from physically latching the belt. 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.

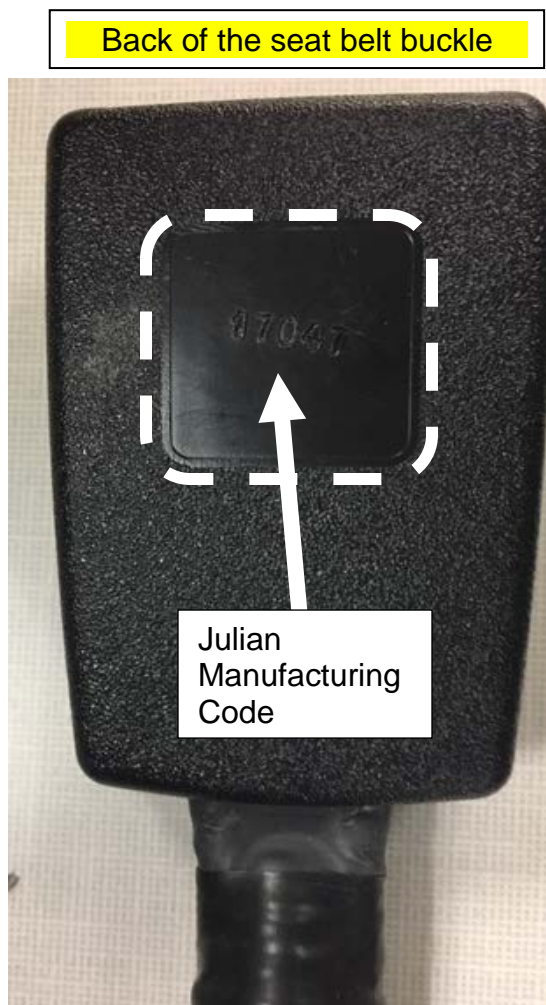
What The Issue Is: ***Certain Recaro Commercial Bus Driver Seats experience a “pre-locked buckle” condition where an internal mechanism in the buckle becomes stuck in the locked position. This condition prevents the seat belt Latch-Plate (tongue) from being inserted into the buckle. As a result, the driver’s seat belt buckle on any bus with a VIN listed in this letter will need to be inspected and replaced if the Julian code on the back of the buckle is within the date range of the recall.***

What We Are Asking You To Do:

- 1. Please locate all seats, part shipments, and service kits delivered under the orders referenced in this letter. Remember to search any vehicles that may have had the replacement seats or seat belt parts installed, as well as your parts inventory.***
- 2. Inspect the Julian code on the back of the driver’s seat belt buckle for all possibly affected parts (See table and figure below).***

Buckles with Julian codes within these ranges are part of the recall:

Julian Codes:	16335 to 16365 (=Dec. 1st 2016 to Dec. 31st 2016)
	17001 to 17178 (= Jan. 1st 2017 to June 27th 2017)



For loose buckles not currently installed on a seat:

- 1. For loose buckles that are possible subject to the recall, please inspect the buckles and contact Recaro to arrange for any recalled units to be returned to them at no cost to you: Contact: John L Marble Jr., John.L.Marble.Jr@recaro-automotive.com (Ph # 248-904-7596).**
- 2. Recaro will ship you replacement units for all recalled buckles at no cost.**
- 3. If you currently have an account with Recaro, Recaro will credit your account for the inspections. If you do not have an account with Recaro, please submit a claim to Gillig for the inspections.**

For buckles currently installed on a seat:

1. ***For buckles currently installed on a seat that are possible subject to the recall, please inspect the buckles and record the results on the attached Recaro Inspection Sheet, including Seat Serial #, Bus Serial # (which is the last six digits of VIN) if applicable, and whether or not the buckle was in the recall code range. The Seat Serial # can be viewed by sliding the seat all the way forward and inspecting the white 4X1 sticker located on the top rear plate of the suspension. (See figure below.)***



2. ***Submit the completed inspection sheet to Recaro at the following email address: John L Marble Jr., John.L.Marble.Jr@recaro-automotive.com (Ph # 248-904-7596)***
3. ***Recaro will ship you new replacement parts for all recalled buckles along with detailed re-work instructions.***
4. ***Replace the recalled seat belt buckles per Recaro's instructions.***
5. ***All defective buckles will need to be returned to Recaro to qualify for credit. Recaro will supply a UPS # to have all buckles returned to them at no cost to you.***
6. ***If you currently have an account with Recaro, Recaro will credit your account for the inspections and recall repairs. If you do not have an account with Recaro, please submit a claim to Gillig for the inspections and recall repairs.***

If you have already performed this repair, you are eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of performing the pre-

notification repair of the problem that is the subject of this recall.

What Gillig Will Do For You:

1. *Gillig will work with the seating supplier (Adient-Recaro) to provide all parts necessary to complete the recall fix at no cost to you and will reimburse you for all labor necessary to perform the fix. At your option, Recaro personnel are available to perform the recall repair at no cost to you.*

If You Have Concerns:

Any questions regarding the information should be directed to Recaro at: John L Marble Jr., John.L.Marble.Jr@recaro-automotive.com (Ph # 248-904-7596) or Gillig Service or Parts Sales (1-800-735-1500).

If after having attempted to take advantage of this recall you believe you have not been able to have your bus remedied without charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C., 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Federal regulations require that any vehicle lessor receiving the recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the vehicle lessee within ten days.

We regret any inconvenience that this situation may cause you. Gillig wants to assure you that we are concerned about customer safety and your continued satisfaction with our products.

Sincerely,

GILLIG, LLC



Robert L. Birdwell
Executive Director, Quality & Service

RLB:rlb
Encl.

CC: **Mr. Greg Vismara, V.P., Engineering, Gillig LLC**
Mr. James MacIsaac, Product Safety & Compliance Manager, Gillig LLC