



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

September 6, 2018

Mr. Mike Woods  
Hickory Springs Manufacturing Company  
4925 State Line Road  
Fort Smith, AR 72916

NEF-150MR  
18E-083

**Subject:** Warning Label Missing From Lower Strap/FMVSS 213

Dear Mr. Woods:

This letter serves to acknowledge Hickory Springs Manufacturing Company'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:**

HSM SOLUTIONS/NEXT GEN SCHOOL BUS SEATS/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** August 15, 2018

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 18E-083

**Components:**

EQUIPMENT:OTHER:LABELS  
SEATS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 5,906

**Problem Description:**

Hickory Springs Manufacturing Company (HSM) is recalling certain NextGen School Bus seats with Integrated Child Restraint Systems. These seats may be missing a warning label on the lower restraint strap. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 213, "Child Restraint Systems."

**Consequence:**

Without a warning label, the seat may be used improperly, increasing the risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

HSM will notify the vehicle manufacturers that purchased the seats and dealers for those companies will install a warning label to the lower restraint strap portion of the Restraint Belt System. The recall is expected to begin in September 2018. Owners may contact HSM customer service at 1-419-492-2157 extension 243.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

We have received HSM'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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@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 long horizontal stroke at the end.

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