



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

January 30, 2018

Mr. James Anderson  
President  
Van-Con, Inc.  
123 William Street  
Middlesex, NJ 08846

NEF-150MR  
18V-037

**Subject:** Uneven Lift Platform/ FMVSS 403 & 404

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This letter serves to acknowledge Van-Con, Inc.'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:**

VAN-CON/WHEELCHAIR LIFT BUS/2016-2018

**Mfr's Report Date:** January 11, 2018

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 18V-037

**Components:**

EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 27

**Problem Description:**

Van-Con, Inc. (Van-Con) is recalling certain 2016-2018 Van-Con Dual Rear-Wheel school buses, model 33803, built on Chevrolet 3500 chassis and equipped with wheelchair lifts. The lifts in the affected vehicles may not deactivate until they are beyond the acceptable limit for being uneven. As such, these lifts fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 403 "Platform lift systems" and FMVSS number 404 "Platform lift installations."

**Consequence:**

A lift platform that is uneven may cause a fall, increasing the risk of an injury.

**Remedy:**

Van-Con will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the threshold warning system, adjusting it as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin March 9, 2018. Owners may contact Van-Con customer service at 1-732-356-8484.

**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.

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](mailto:michelle.rice@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto: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 large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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