

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 19E-065

**Manufacturer Name :** SynTec Seating Solutions, LLC

**Submission Date :** OCT 11, 2019

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19E-065

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR



## Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** SynTec Seating Solutions, LLC

**Address :** 200 Swathmore Avenue

High Point NC 27263

**Company phone :** 336 8627527

## Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 1,156,972

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 95 %

## Equipment Information :

**Brand / Trade 1 :** S3B Base & S3C Base Conve

**Model :** All Variants, Excluding Thin Back Versions

**Part No. :** Various

**Size :** Various

**Function :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** All SynTec school bus seats built with S3B style re-bond foam within the referenced build dates, including all sizes and mounting variations, except applications that do not require knee styrene blocks due to the seat position in the bus (last row/thin back).

**Production Dates :** AUG 01, 2014 - AUG 16, 2019

## Description of Noncompliance :

**Description of the Noncompliance :** In the relevant population, certain specific areas of the seat back may not meet the requirements of S5.3.2 Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 222.

**FMVSS 1 :** 222 - School bus passenger seating and crash protection

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** The suspect population of seats were made with styrene blocks that have the potential to not meet the requirement of S5.3.2 Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 222, which may increase the risk of injury to the occupants in a crash. There have been NO reported injuries or accidents related to this defect.

**Description of the Cause :** Current styrene block density, geometry, and thickness within the re-bond foam back, may not absorb sufficient energy, with the result that resistive force occupant knee impact may exceed 2,669N in specific areas along the steel seat frame back support.

Identification of Any Warning N/A  
that can Occur :

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

## Chronology :

March 2019: Thomas Built Bus notified SynTec of a potential Non-Compliance test performed at Transport Canada in February/March 2018. Transport Canada tested a total of 4 seats with 2 seats meeting requirements.

March 2019: SynTec launches investigation, including review of design history, validation and conformance testing, product changes, testing history, changes in test methodology, test equipment, manufacturing changes and variability, supplier issues and other matters potentially contributing to the reported test result.

June 2019: SynTec representatives visit Transport Canada with OEM to review tested seats. A total of 4 seats were tested with 2 of the 4 meeting all requirements. Teardown of the seats indicated variation of the position of the knee styrene block to the seat frame.

July - August 2019: SynTec and OEM initiate various impact tests in an effort to duplicate failure mode. This includes process trials, gluing methods, styrene positioning, and density studies to recreate field issue. SynTec initiates design change (8/12/19) to styrene block to improve resisting force as an improvement measure while the investigation continues.

September 2019: As a result of internal seat and component level testing, combined with difficulties in visually identifying manufacturing variation in the positioning of the styrene block, SynTec concludes that a non-compliance could potentially exist on any S3B Base Seat and S3C Base Convertible seat in the subject population.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Syntec has determined that the installation of an additional impact material between the re-bond back and the vinyl back cover will assure compliance with pertinent requirements. The impact material can be installed in the vehicle without taking the bus out of service.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy adds a secondary impact material to the knee styrene block area in the back of the re-bond foam. Testing has determined that the seat is fully functional and compliant when the remedy is applied.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The production remedy is a redesign of the re-bond back knee styrene block. This change went into production on August 12, 2019.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Customer notification will be mailed by the OEM using OEM records to determine the customers affected.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

## Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

\* NR - Not Reported