

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

August 7, 2020

Ms. Hanah Klodzinski Recall Compliance Coordinator Thor Motor Coach PO Box 1486 Elkhart, IN 46515 NEF-150KL 20V-444

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Front Seat Wiring Harnesses Routed Incorrectly

Dear Ms. Klodzinski:

This letter serves to acknowledge Thor Motor Coach'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:

THOR MOTOR COACH/CHATEAU/2020-2021

THOR MOTOR COACH/CHATEAU CITATION/2020

THOR MOTOR COACH/COMPASS/2020

THOR MOTOR COACH/DAYBREAK/2020-2021

THOR MOTOR COACH/DELANO/2020-2021

THOR MOTOR COACH/FOUR WINDS/2020-2021

THOR MOTOR COACH/FREEDOM ELITE/2020-2021

THOR MOTOR COACH/GEMINI/2020

THOR MOTOR COACH/QUANTUM/2020-2021

THOR MOTOR COACH/SIESTA/2020

THOR MOTOR COACH/SYNERGY/2020

THOR MOTOR COACH/TIBURON/2020-2021

Mfr's Report Date: July 29, 2020

NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-444

## **Components:**

AIR BAGS

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: WIRING

**SEATS** 

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 463

### **Problem Description:**

Thor Motor Coach (Thor) is recalling certain 2020-2021 Daybreak, Four Winds, Quantum, Delano, Tiburon, Chateau and Freedom Elite motorhomes and 2020 Gemini, Chateau Citation, Compass, Siesta, and Synergy motorhomes built on Sprinter Van chassis (platform 970 (VS30), equipped with swivel seats. The wiring harnesses for the front seats may have been routed incorrectly and could become jammed and damaged in the swivel seat frames.



### **Consequence:**

If the wiring harness is damaged, the side air bag within the seat may deploy inadvertently or not deploy as designed in the event of a crash, increasing the risk of injury to vehicle occupants.

## Remedy:

Thor will notify owners, and Mercedes-Benz dealers will inspect the wire harness routing for both front seats and will repair the wiring and add clips or cable ties as needed, free of charge. Owners may contact Thor customer service at 1-877-855-2867 Mercedes-Benz customer service at 1-877-762-8267. Thor's number for this recall is RC000200.

#### 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.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

NHTSA understands that Daimler Vans USA, LLC will be handling the quarterly reporting for this recall.

Your contact for this recall will be Kristin Lepper who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, or by email at kristin.lepper@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Joshua Neff

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

