



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

July 9, 2024

Mr. Keith Fisher
Compliance Engineer
Forest River Bus, LLC
2367 Century Drive
Goshen, IN 46528

NEF-107KL
24V-502

Subject: Emergency Exit Handles are Inaccessible/FMVSS 217

Dear Mr. Fisher:

This letter serves to acknowledge Forest River Bus, LLC'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:

STARCRAFT BUS/STARLITE/2023-2024

Mfr's Report Date: July 2, 2024

NHTSA Campaign Number: 24V-502

Components:

STRUCTURE:BODY

STRUCTURE:EMERGENCY:ESCAPE/EGRESS/EXIT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 62

Problem Description:

Forest River Bus, LLC (Forest River) is recalling certain 2023-2024 Starcraft Starlite transit buses. The emergency exit handles and labels are not easily accessible which can prevent or delay the exit of passengers in the event of an emergency. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 217, "Bus Emergency Exits and Window Retention and Release."

Consequence:

In the event of a crash or fire, passengers may not be able to exit the vehicle, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

Dealers will replace the egress window, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed August 12, 2024. Owners may contact Forest River customer service at 1-800-348-7440. Forest River's number for this recall is 05-1807.

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).

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.

As stated in 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 573.7, submission of the first of eight 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. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Forest River Bus, LLC's contact for this recall will be Kristin Lepper who may be reached by email at kristin.lepper@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement