



NABI Service Bulletin No: SB-13-02-02

To: All Operators

Subject: Disabling Front-Facing Flip-Up Seats

Applicability: NABI buses where the first row of forward-facing, flip-up seats directly behind the wheelchair areas have no barriers in front of them. This bulletin does not relate to buses where there is a barrier in front of the first row of front-facing seats.

Date Issued: December 13, 2013

NABI Bus, LLC (NABI) has learned of a rare safety risk associated with certain seating arrangements where the first row of forward-facing, flip-up seats directly behind the wheelchair areas on transit buses have no barriers in front of them. NABI has become aware that three passengers on buses similar to NABI's were thrown forward from these seats and sustained quadriplegic injuries. Catastrophic passenger injuries from seat-expulsion in this manner have been extremely rare. In fact, after more than 21 years and after billions of passenger-miles, the other manufacturer has encountered only these three such serious incidents involving its buses. These types of catastrophic injuries are rare. The Company believes that all if the industry's transit bus manufacturers have built buses with this type of seating configuration.

NABI does not believe that the seats are defective or that a recall is necessary. The Company, however, has proposed that transit agencies disable the seats by modifying the locking rod on the seats so that the seat bottoms remain in the upright position. NABI recommends leaving the disabled seat row in place to act as barrier for the bus seats behind it.

Direct all inquiries regarding this bulletin to:

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Instructions - Disabling Front-Facing Flip-Up Seats

1. Locate the forward facing flip up seats that do not have a “barrier” in front of them. See Figure 1 for the typical location.

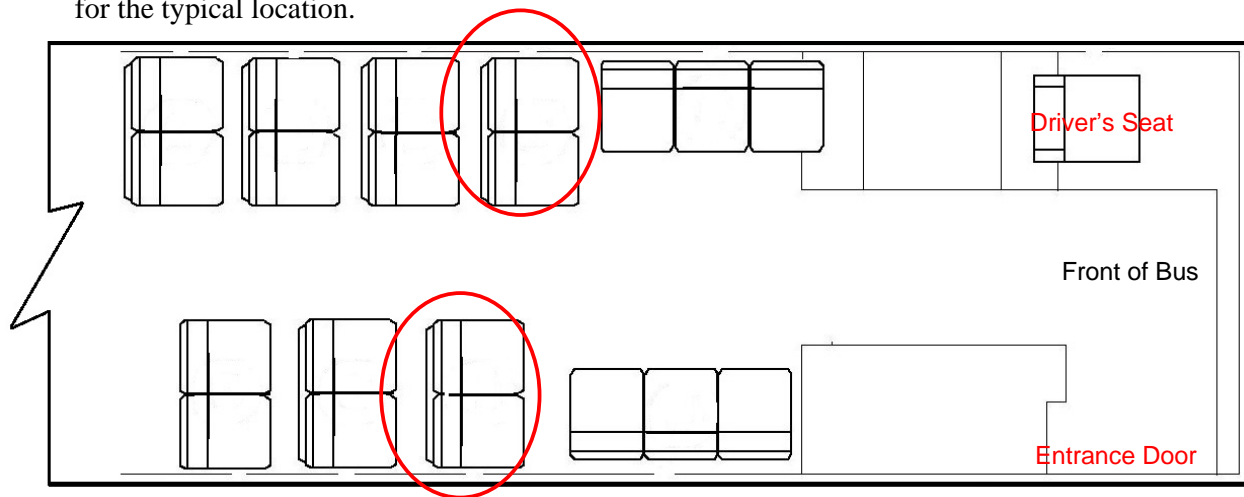


Figure 1: Typical Forward Facing Flip Up Seat Location

2. Flip the seats into the upright position.
3. Extend the locking rod and secure it in the extended position. See Figure 2.

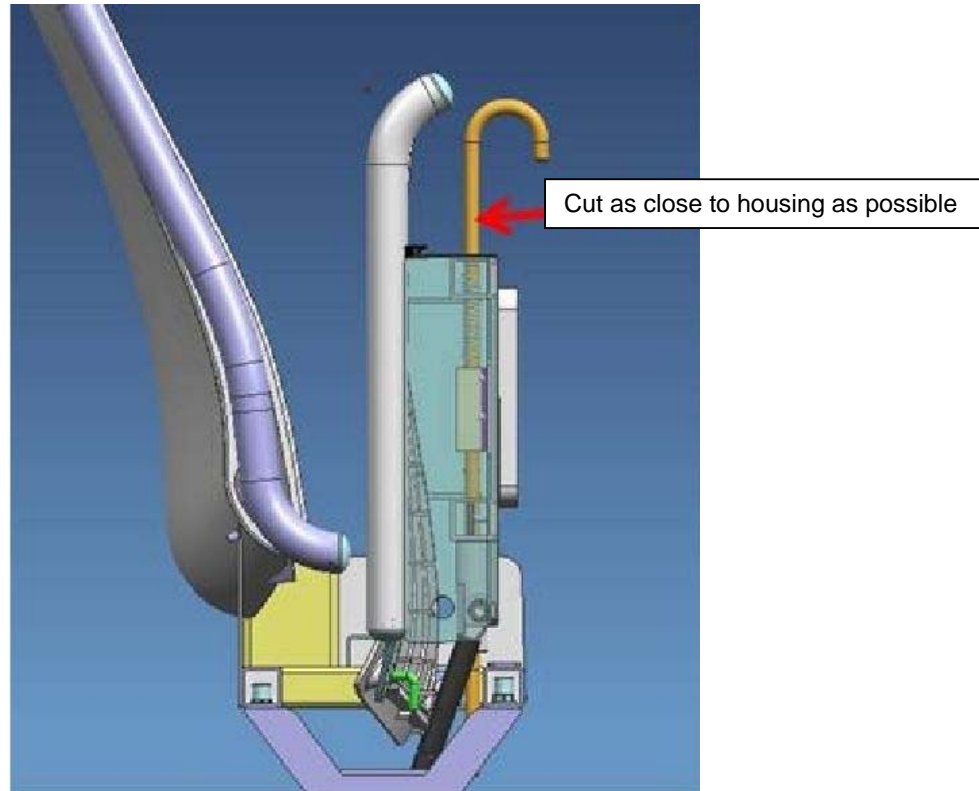


Figure 2: Typical Locking Rod in Extended Position

4. Cut the pull handle of the locking rod off as close to the housing as possible. See Figure 2.

NOTE: On some models, the seat bottom may need to be removed for improved access to the locking rod.

5. Once the locking rod pull handle has been removed, unsecure the locking rod and let it recede into the seat bottom. See Figure 3.

NOTE: The pictures are of a typical flip seat configuration. Your seat may look different but the basic operation will be very similar.

Locking rod cut and receded into housing

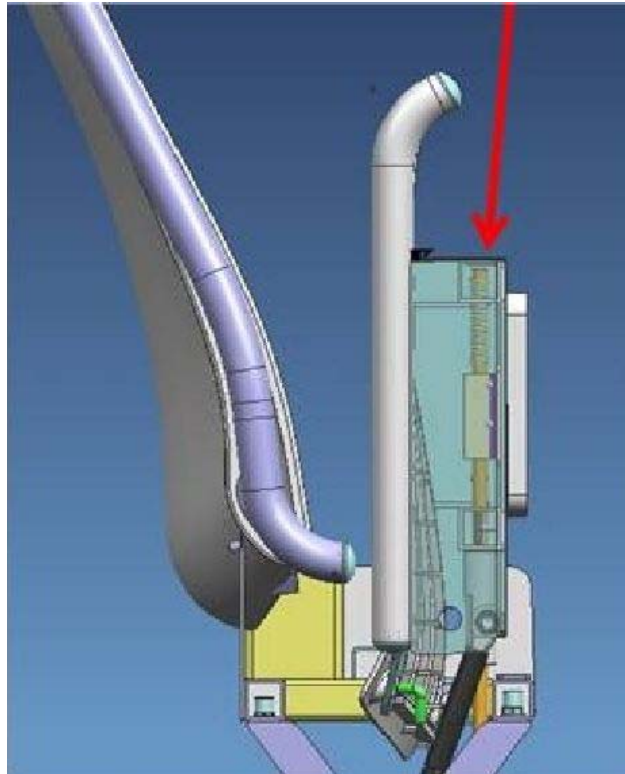
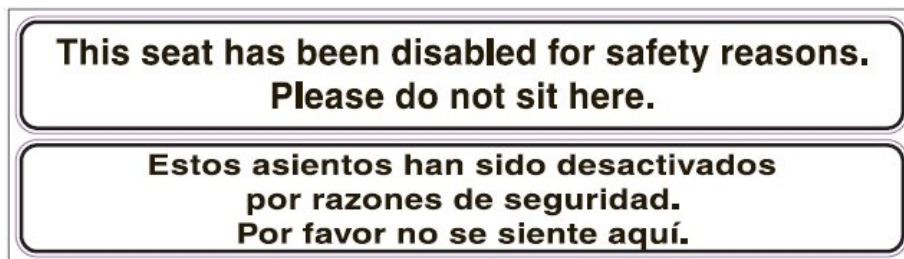
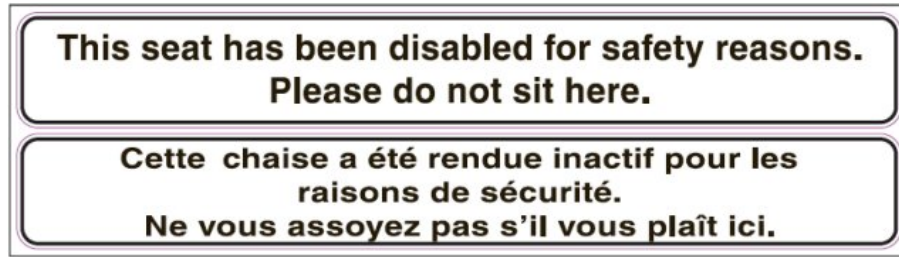


Figure 3: Locking Rod Handle Removed

6. Verify that the seat is locked in the upright position and the locking rod is no longer able to be used.
7. Make sure there are no sharp edges left on the cut locking rod or any parts that can be touched by a passenger. If there are any sharp edges, sand them smooth.
8. Affix one of the “*This seat has been disabled for safety reasons.*” decals in a visible area on the locked seat. Decals are available from NABI Customer Service at 256-241-1312. Please request PN 544788 for English / Spanish decals or PN 544796 for English / French decals. See Figure 4.



↑
PN 544788



PN 544796

Figure 4: Disabled Seat Decals

NOTE: Each above part number comes with two separate language decals. These can be separated and affixed in the best visible location for the passengers. Languages that are not shown above can be made available on request.

If there are any additional questions please call Bill Nygaard for more information; (contact information is on Page 1 of this bulletin).