



Product Awareness Bulletin

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#039

URGENT UPDATE

Lap / Shoulder Seat Belt Requirements Non School Buses

Please be advised that TBB scheduling constraints requires that we cannot accept any more non school bus orders that will not comply with the seating regulations in effect as of Nov-28-2016.

With Nov-28-2016 being a firm effective start date we do not want to jeopardize any order placed as of today being skipped or moved out past Nov-28th.

For your information the regulation & definitions of vehicles affected are printed below.

NHTSA has amended FMVSS 208 to require lap & shoulder belts at all seating positions for:

- A) All over the road buses
And
- B) Non over the road buses with a GVWR greater than 26,000lbs except – school buses, transit buses, prison buses, and perimeter seating buses.
 - Effective date is for buses manufactured on or after November-28-2016

Key Definitions:

- A Bus is defined as “a motor vehicle with motive power, except a trailer, designed for carrying more than 10 people”
- An over the road bus is a bus of any GVWR that has a luggage/baggage compartment located under the floor
- School Bus is our standard offerings including MFSAB and activity type vehicles.
- Transit Bus is a bus that is equipped with a stop request and or fare box system, sold for public transportation provided by, or on behalf of a State or Local Government
- Prison Bus is a bus manufactured for the purpose of transporting persons subject to involuntary restraint or confinement and has design features consistent with that purpose.
- A perimeter seating bus is a bus that has 2 rows of 4P, forward facing seats, or fewer, rearward of the Drivers seating position. This is for buses with aisle facing seats.

Therefore:

- 1) Any non-school bus over 26,000lbs GVWR that is neither a transit or prison bus will require lap and shoulder seat belt seats.
- 2) Any non-school bus under 26,000lbs GVWR with an under floor luggage/storage compartment will require lap and shoulder seat belt seats.

This regulation applies only to buses domiciled in the USA.

At this time the only seats we can offer that will comply are:

- Freedman Family 3PT
- Esquire
- Bellagio

Testing on other seats that Freedman will offer should be complete by years end, but until we have test results this is only a forecast

We apologize for such short notice, but we just can not take the risk of building non compliant vehicles.