



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

November 15, 2013

Mr. Timothy Nalepka  
Senior Vice President & General Counsel  
Motor Coach Industries  
1700 East Golf Road  
Schaumburg, IL 60173

NVS-215KS  
13V-498

**Subject:** Battery Equalizers-Possible Fire

Dear Mr. Nalepka:

This letter serves to acknowledge Motor Coach Industries'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:**

MCI/102D3/2000-2001  
MCI/102DL3/2000-2001  
MCI/102EL3/2000-2001  
MCI/102ELS3/2000-2001  
MCI/D4000/2001-2011  
MCI/D4005/2005-2012  
MCI/D4500/2001-2011  
MCI/D4505/2005-2012  
MCI/E4500/2001-2011  
MCI/E4500C/2001-2006  
MCI/G4500/2003-2004  
MCI/J4500/2001-2011  
MCI/J4500C/2006-2007, 2009-2010

**Mfr's Report Date:** October 7, 2013

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 13V-498

**Components:**

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 10,016

**Problem Description:**

Motor Coach Industries (MCI) is recalling certain model year 2000-2012 D, E, G and J series coaches manufactured January 2000 through June 2011 and equipped with Sure Power battery equalizers containing a particular epoxy sealing, aka 'potting', compound. The specific potting compound used in the subject products for insulation was found to be capable of conducting electricity after being exposed to heat.

**Consequence:**

Once electrically conductive, the material is capable of melting and burning, increasing the risk of a fire.

**Remedy:**

MCI will notify owners, and Sure Power will replace the equalizers, free of charge. The recall will begin in late November 2013. Owners may contact MCI at 1-847-285-2000. This campaign is MCI service bulletin 401.

**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](http://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).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six 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.

On August 20, 2013, NHTSA announced new changes to the requirements governing safety recalls. Some of these requirements are already in effect. Please ensure your company will be in compliance with each requirement on, or before, its respective effective date. For a summary of the requirements and their effective dates please click on the "New!" link at <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Manufacturers>.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at [kelly.schuler@dot.gov](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement