

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

On January 12, 2010 , Daimler Buses North America Inc. (Daimler Buses) decided that a safety related defect exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: January 21, 2010

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable):

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Daimler Buses North America Inc.

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Joe Labonte

Product Safety and Compliance Officer

Telephone Number: (905) 403-7807 Fax No.: (905)403-8808

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Joe Labonte

Product Safety and Compliance Officer

Signed:



I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Orion Model Years Involved: 1992 - 2009 Model(s): II, V, VI, VII

Production Dates: Beginning: February 1992 Ending: May 2009

Vehicle Type: Bus Bodystyle: II, V, VI, VII

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Only certain vehicle model Orion II, V, VI, VII configured with Morse remote throttle control.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

12%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Number of Vehicles

Model	Year	Potentially Involved	Model	Year	Potentially Involved	Model	Year	Potentially Involved
II	1992	12	V	1999	62	VII	2002	142
II	1993	8	V	2000	376	VII	2003	99
II	1998	9	V	2001	66	VII	2004	28
V	1992	39	V	2002	117	VII	2005	9
V	1993	77	V	2003	138	VII	2006	37
V	1994	14	V	2005	5	VII	2008	15
V	1995	16	V	2006	1	VII	2009	9
V	1996	123	V	2008	7			
V	1997	43	VI	1995	1			
V	1998	29	VI	2002	3			

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 1485 Buses

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100 %.

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

Vehicles having a Morse remote throttle control.

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

The Morse remote throttle control panel is readily accessible located in the engine compartment. The two position "THROTTLE" switch is labeled, "OFF" or "FRONT" and "ON" or "REAR".

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

A maintainer fails to place the throttle control switch into the "OFF" or "FRONT" position and has shut the engine down without reducing the RPM to idle before returning the bus for starting from the front driver's station.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

If the throttle control switch is not set to the "OFF" or "FRONT" position and the engine RPM was set to above idle when returning the bus for starting from the front driver's station, the bus can start with the engine at idle, the transmission gear is then selected and then once the brake pedal is depressed the engine could change to a high RPM. The bus could accelerate at a higher rate than initially anticipated.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

The rear panel "THROTTLE" switch is in the "ON" or "REAR" position.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

The harness assemblies are custom supplied to Daimler Bus specific circuit specifications.

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

December 2009 - Daimler Bus was notified of the maintenance operating situation regarding unintentional acceleration.

December 2009 – Daimler Bus investigated the electrical circuit and verified the situation.

December 2009 - Daimler Bus reviewed without any findings of prior customer complaints, field reports, warranty claims, injury, or property claims.

January 2010 Daimler Bus investigated if the situation could occur on other buses having a Morse remote throttle control.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

This is not a noncompliance.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Owners will be asked to modify the wiring to the Morse throttle control switch which will disable the remote throttle control when the bus is started from the driver's station and reminded to return the throttle control engine RPM to idle before turning the engine off and to switch the "THROTTLE" switch to the "OFF" or "FRONT" position when returning the bus to be started from the driver's station.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

When the remote switch is in the "ON" or "REAR" position, the engine is started from the driver's station, the parking brake is released, the brake pedal is depressed and released, then the accelerator is depressed, the engine RPM remains at idle.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.
The remedy circuit was modified in January 2010 identical to the recall remedy in the field. Connection pins of the harness are modified in place of shop splices and wire termination methods described in the remedy instructions.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Owners will be notified in March 2010 of the remedy instructions.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

A copy of a notice(s) will be provided.