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**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF DEFECT INFORMATION  
REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. 99V-331 by the  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: November 16, 1999

Manufacturer: Navistar International Transportation Corp.

Manufacturer Contact: Mr. R. L. Van Laar, Compliance Manager

FAX: (219) 461-1814

**SUBJECT: 277 Navistar 1997-1999 3800 and Amtran FE school bus models manufactured from August 12, 1997 through September 27, 1999. An air brake line controlling the rear brakes may be too close to the exhaust pipe and could rupture at any time without warning. Exhaust pipe heat can melt or cause premature failure of this air line if the air line is routed too close to the exhaust pipe. Navistar Recall No. 99511.**

This is an initial acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be forthcoming shortly. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

Please provide the draft owner notification letter so we can review it before it is mailed to owners.

As stated in Part 573.6, 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. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin December 13, 1999. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due in this office by January 30, 2000.

If you have any questions, please call:



Patricia Wallace, Recall Analyst on (202) 366-5232  
or Jonathan White, Chief on (202) 366-5226  
or by FAX (202) 366-7882  
Recall Analysis Division

Mr. R. L. Van Laar  
Compliance Manager  
Navistar International  
Transportation Corporation  
P.O. Box 10088  
Fort Wayne, IN 46850-0088

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99V-331

Dear Mr. Van Laar:

We have reviewed Navistar International Transportation Corporation's (Navistar) Defect Information Report dated November 16, 1999, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 277 Navistar 1997-1999 3800 and Amtran FE school bus models manufactured from August 12, 1997, through September 27, 1999. An air brake line controlling the rear brakes may be too close to the exhaust pipe and could rupture at any time without warning. Exhaust pipe heat can melt or cause premature failure of this air line if the air line is routed too close to the exhaust pipe. **The assigned identification number for this recall is 99V-331 (Navistar Recall No. 99511).**

**Navistar is responsible for the remedy of these buses from this date forward, regardless of vehicle age, mileage, or ownership.**

#### **Recall Communications**

Communications pertaining to safety recalls and issued by Navistar to more than one distributor, dealer, purchaser, or owner are to be submitted to this office within 5 days of issuance as described under 49 CFR Part 573.5(c)(9). Where this information is sent over a period time, the communications are to be submitted within 5 days from the date the communications were first sent, and furnish the date, or range of dates, each communication was issued. This includes information transmitted by computer, telefax, or other electronic means; and initial or interim communications. All copies are to be in readable form and a written transcript should be provided for each non-written communication. Also, if the communication was not nationally and uniformly distributed, then identify the criteria used for the distribution.

#### **Manufacturer Communications**

Part 573.8, "Notices, Bulletins and Other Communications," requires that every motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment manufacturer shall furnish a copy of **all notices, bulletins, and other communications (including warranty and policy extension communiques and product improvement bulletins)** to manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or purchasers, regarding any

defect in its vehicle or items of equipment (including any failure or malfunction beyond normal deterioration in use, any failure of performance, or any flaw or unintended deviation from design specifications), whether or not such defect is safety related. These notices or communications are to be submitted, regardless of the media used to transmit the information. Where communications are made orally or electronically, provide a transcript. In all other cases, provide the information in the media form used to transmit the information. On a case by case basis, we may require written transcripts of this material as well. Copies are to be submitted monthly, not more than 5 working days after the end of each month.

### Quarterly Status Reports

As stated in Part 573.6, 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 begins. As reported to Mr. Mark Clark of your staff on November 29, 1999, we have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets all the requirements of Part 577. As stated in your report, owner notification was expected to begin on December 13, 1999. Since notification began late in the last month of the quarter, Navistar's first quarterly report will be due by April 30, 2000.

The following chart provides due dates for each of the six quarterly reports.

<u>QUARTER</u>	<u>QUARTER BEGINS</u>	<u>QUARTER ENDS</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	January 1, 2000	March 31, 2000	April 30, 2000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	April 1, 2000	June 30, 2000	July 30, 2000
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	July 1, 2000	September 30, 2000	October 30, 2000
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	October 1, 2000	December 31, 2000	January 30, 2001
5 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	January 1, 2001	March 31, 2001	April 30, 2001
6 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	April 1, 2001	June 30, 2001	July 30, 2001

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pat Wallace at (202) 366-5232 or fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,



Jonathan D. White, Chief  
Recall Analysis Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Safety Assurance