

U.S. Department
of Transportation

OCT - 6 2003

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

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

Assigned Recall No. 03V-365 by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: September 25, 2003

MANUFACTURER: Girardin Minibus, Inc.

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: Mr. Luc Guillemette
After Sales & Service Manager

FAX: 819-477-1848

SUBJECT: 46 MY 2003 MBII & MBIV school buses built on Ford E-350 & E-450, GM 3500 chassis, and manufactured between August 25 and September 17, 2003. These buses are equipped with Beam's Industries seat belts. The metal frame of the seat belt buckle may fracture due to possible embrittlement of the steel, resulting in a potential release of the engaged tongue during use. These seat belt assemblies do not comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 209, "Seat Belt Assemblies." [Girardin Recall No. 03-005-SB.]

This is an acknowledgment for this recall. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

NOTIFICATION TO PURCHASERS

It is our understanding that notification to owners will be conducted by Beam's, therefore, it will not be necessary for your company to supply this office with quarterly status reports.

If you have any questions, please call:

Kelly Schuler, Safety Defect Analyst or George Person, Chief
at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX (202) 366-7882

Recall Management Division

kschuler@nhtsa.dot.gov

Faxed on 10/6/03

