

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

Assigned Recall No. 00V-208 by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

AUG - 8 2000

Part 573 Report Date: **July 27, 2000**

MANUFACTURER: **American Transportation Corporation (AmTran)**

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: **Robert L. Douglas
Director of Product Integrity**

FAX: **(501) 505-2185**

SUBJECT: 257 AmTran 2001 FE school buses manufactured from June 1 through July 15, 2000; RE school buses manufactured from June 1 through June 28, 2000; and IC school buses manufactured from March 17 through June 13, 2000. These vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of FMVSS 565, "Vehicle Identification Number Requirements." The vehicles have the wrong model year code in the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). AmTran Recall No. 00-302.

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.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle which fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

In accordance with Part 577, amended July 7, 1995, a draft owner notification letter must be submitted for review prior to mailing.

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 September 1, 2000. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 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

AUG 23 2000

Mr. Robert Douglas
Director of Engineering
AmTran Corporation
P.O. Box 6000
Conway, AR 72033-6000

NSA-11kjs
00V-208

Dear Mr. Douglas:

We have reviewed AmTran Corporation's (AmTran) revised Noncompliance Information Report dated July 27, 2000, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 257 AmTran 2001 FE school buses manufactured from June 1 through July 15, 2000; RE school buses manufactured from June 1 through June 28, 2000; and IC school buses manufactured from March 17 through June 13, 2000. These vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of FMVSS 565, "Vehicle Identification Number Requirements." The vehicles have the wrong model year code in the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). The assigned Identification Number for this recall is 00V-208. *[AmTran Recall No. 00-302.]*

AmTran is responsible for the remedy of these vehicles from this date forward, regardless of vehicle age, mileage, or ownership.

Please provide a draft owner notification letter for review prior to mailing.

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 occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin September 1, 2000. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 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 st Quarter	July 1, 2000	September 30, 2000	October 30, 2000
2 nd Quarter	October 1, 2000	December 31, 2000	January 30, 2001

3 rd Quarter	January 1, 2001	March 31, 2001	April 30, 2001
4 th Quarter	April 1, 2001	June 30, 2001	July 30, 2001
5 th Quarter	July 1, 2001	September 30, 2001	October 30, 2001
6 th Quarter	October 1, 2001	December 31, 2001	January 30, 2002

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mrs. Kelly Schuler at (202) 366-5227.

Sincerely,



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