

Sainte-Claire, November 15, 2002

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein,  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400, Seventh Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590  
USA

00V-389

**SUBJECT: REVISION OF SAFETY RECALL NOTIFICATION**

Dear Mr. Weinstein,

Three (3) copies of the letter that our customers (Defect Notification) will receive and three (3) copies of Safety recall no. 00-37 (00V-389) was previously mailed to you.

Please discard previous mailing, a revision was made to Safety Recall 00-37 (00V-389). The application is the same but the vehicle countdown was wrong. Thus the number of potentially affected vehicles changes from 3083 to 3120. The procedure remains the same.

All our customers that did not receive the first mailing will receive the appropriate version.

If you require any information on that campaign, do not hesitate to contact us.

Truly yours,



Josyane Côté, E.I.T.  
Technical Publications Manager

00V-389



**PREVOST**

# SAFETY RECALL

Sr00-37

ENGINEERED - REGISTERED  
ISO 9001 & ISO 14001



<b>DATE :</b> November 2000	<b>SECTION :</b> 11
<b>SUBJECT :</b> TAG AXLE INSPECTION AND INSTALLATION OF REINFORCEMENT PARTS	

## APPLICATION

		
H3-40, H3-41 & H3-45 Coaches Model Year: 1990 - 1996	From 2P9H33408L1001031 up to 2PCH33417I1011357 Incl.	
H3-41 & H3-45 Coaches Model Year: 1994 - 2001	From 2P9H33495E1001012 up to 2PCH33487I1014181 Incl.	
XL-40 and XL-45 Coaches Model Year: 1994 - 1995	From 2P9L33408B1001775 up to 2P9L33402S1001647 Incl.	
MTH-45E Model Year: 1994 - 1995	From 2P9E33492R1001777 up to 2P9E33492S1001638 Incl.	

## DESCRIPTION

It has come to the attention of Prévost Car Inc. that on the above-mentioned vehicles having a high mileage or submitted to severe working conditions, the tag axle may develop fatigue cracks and eventually a tag axle failure. This could have adverse effects on the handling of the vehicle. If you are the owner or operator of such vehicle, it is of the utmost importance to have the tag axle inspected right away. Reinforcement parts must be installed and cracks repaired if necessary in order to strengthen the tag axle. For more information or help on how to perform this safety recall, contact your service manager or the nearest service center.

## 1<sup>st</sup> PART

		
H3 Series Coaches Model Year: 1990 - 1996	From 2P9H33408L1001031 up to 2PCH33417I1011357 Incl.	
XL-40 and XL-45 Coaches Model Year: 1994 - 1995	From 2P9L33408B1001775 up to 2P9L33402S1001647 Incl.	
MTH-45E Model Year: 1994 - 1995	From 2P9E33492R1001777 up to 2P9E33492S1001638 Incl.	

## MATERIAL

121503	Reinforcement part	4
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*Note: Material can be obtained through regular channels.*

## PROCEDURE

### INSPECTION

1. Raise tag axle then remove the wheels or empty air springs then raise tag axle using a jack and remove the wheels.

2. Remove asphalt base undercoating (Gravel Guard 3M) and any rust present near the risk or affected area, the risk areas are the joints between axle arch and sub-assemblies (refer to figure 1).
3. Check if tag axle is cracked, check if cracks are superficial by grinding the affected area to make the cracks disappear. If cracks are only superficial, chip off or grind to bare metal then reweld crack referring to paragraph: Steel – Steel Welding. Weld reinforcement parts referring to figure 1 welding specifications

4. If no cracks are present on tag axle, weld reinforcement parts referring to figure 1 welding specifications.

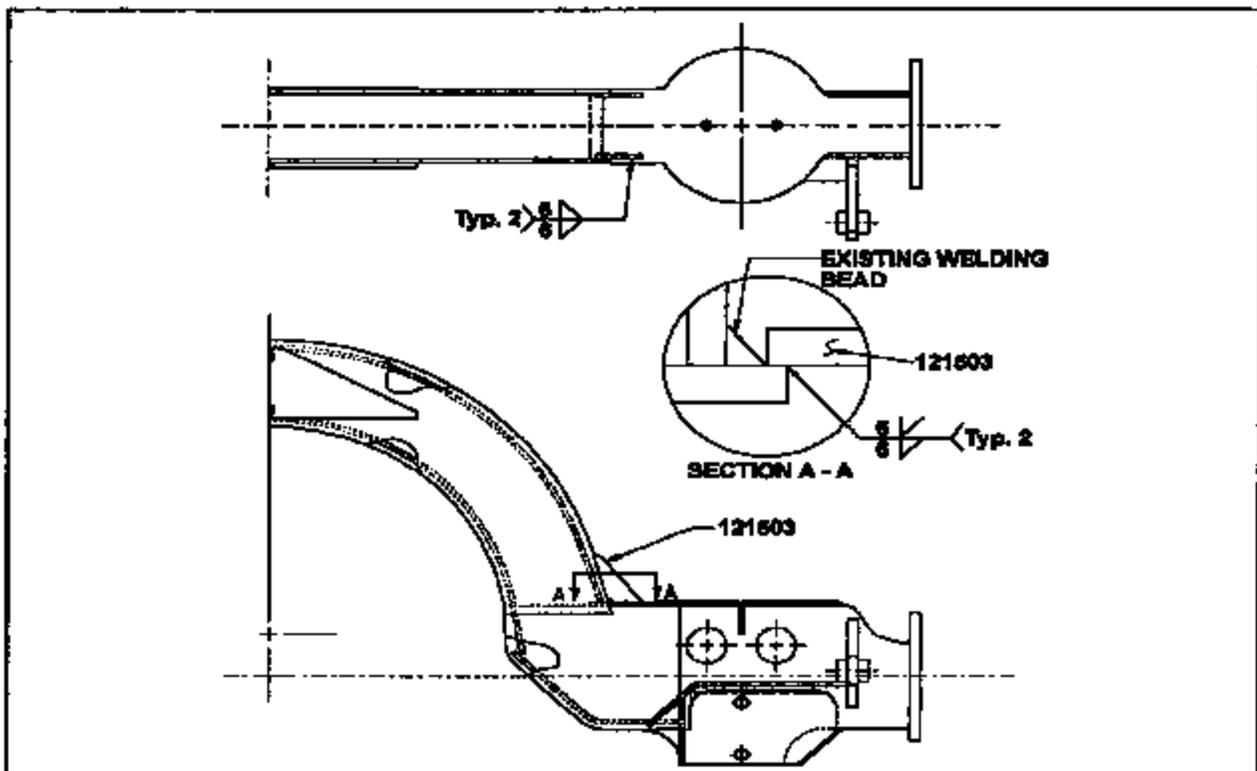


FIGURE 1

- When base metal temperature is below 32 °F (0 °C), base metal must be preheated to at least 50 °F (10 °C) and this temperature must be maintained for the whole welding process. It is therefore preferable to leave the vehicle to repair in a heated area for about half a day or heat tag axle until it reaches 50 °F (10 °C) minimum. You can also circulate warm air around tag axle using a fan.

## REINFORCEMENT PARTS INSTALLATION

**Note :** *Welding must be done only by a qualified and experienced person.*

- Protective shields must be placed in order to protect components against heat, welding flash, welding arc and other elements associated with welding.
- Always wear the appropriate safety equipment.
- Weld in clean and well-ventilated area, and always have an appropriate fire extinguisher within your reach.
- The following precautions are to be taken to protect the electronic control components :
  - Cut off battery power (battery master switch) from battery compartment.
  - Disconnect wiring harness connectors from ECM (Electronic Control Module). The ECM is mounted on the starter side of the engine.
  - For vehicles equipped with an automatic transmission, disconnect wiring harness connectors from ECU (Electronic Control Unit). The ECU is located in rear electrical compartment.
  - For vehicles equipped with ABS (Anti-Lock Brake System), disconnect wiring harness connectors from ABS Electronic Control Unit. The ABS Electronic Control Unit is located in the front service compartment.
  - Do not connect welding cables to electronic control components.
- Weld reinforcement parts as per figure 1 and refer to welding specifications indicated in paragraph: **Steel – Steel Welding:**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> PART

	
H3-41 & H3-45 Coaches Model Year: 1996 - 2001	From 2PCH3348111011358 up to 2PCH3349711014181 incl.

## MATERIAL

121586	Reinforcement part	2
121587	Reinforcement part	2
121588	Reinforcement part	2

**Note:** *Material can be obtained through regular channels.*

## PROCEDURE

## INSPECTION

1. Raise tag axle then remove the wheels or empty air springs then raise tag axle using a jack and remove the wheels.

2. Remove asphalt base undercoating (Gravel Guard 3M) and any rust present near the risk or affected area, the risk areas are located on sub-assemblies and indicated in figure 2.
3. Check if tag axle is cracked, check if cracks are superficial by grinding the affected area to make the cracks disappear. If cracks are only superficial, chip off or grind to bare metal then reweld crack referring to paragraph: Steel – Steel Welding. Weld reinforcement parts referring to figure 3 welding specifications

4. If no cracks are present on tag axle, weld reinforcement parts referring to figure 3 welding specifications.
5. When base metal temperature is below 32 °F (0 °C), base metal must be preheated to at least 50 °F (10 °C) and this temperature must be maintained for the whole welding process. It is therefore preferable to leave the vehicle to repair in a heated area for about half a day or heat tag axle until it reaches 50 °F (10 °C) minimum. You can also circulate warm air around tag axle using a fan.

## REINFORCEMENT PARTS INSTALLATION

**Note :** *Welding must be done only by a qualified and experienced person.*

1. Protective shields must be placed in order to protect components against heat, welding flash, welding arc and other elements associated with welding.
2. Always wear the appropriate safety equipment.
3. Weld in clean and well-ventilated area, and always have an appropriate fire extinguisher within your reach.
4. The following precautions are to be taken to protect the electronic control components :
  - Cut off battery power (battery master switch) from battery compartment.
  - Disconnect wiring harness connectors from ECM (Electronic Control Module). The ECM is mounted on the starter side of the engine.
  - For vehicles equipped with an automatic transmission, disconnect wiring harness connectors from ECU (Electronic Control Unit). The ECU is located in rear electrical compartment.
  - For vehicles equipped with ABS (Anti-Lock Brake System), disconnect wiring harness connectors from ABS Electronic Control Unit. The ABS Electronic Control Unit is located in the front service compartment.
  - Do not connect welding cables to electronic control components.
5. Weld reinforcement parts as per figure 3 and refer to following welding specifications:

## WELDING SEQUENCE

In order to allow better heat dispersion and to control deformation due to welding, it is important to follow the following steps :

- Install and spot weld reinforcement parts # 121586, 121587 and 121588 as per figure 3;
- (1) Weld top of reinforcement part #121588 (horizontal);
- (2) Weld under reinforcement parts # 121586 and 121587 (overhead);
- (3) Weld under reinforcement part #121588 (overhead);
- (4) Weld top of reinforcement parts #121586 and 121587 (horizontal);
- Allow welding to cool, then remove slag and grind arc spots. Check quality of welding. Repaint reinforcement parts and axle. Apply asphalt base undercoating (Gravel Guard 3M).

## STEEL – STEEL WELDING

- FCAW (Flux Core Arc Welding) process ;
- Electrode wire conforms to A5.20 AWS (American Welding Standards) specifications ;
- E4801T-9-CH, E71T-1 or E71T-9 type electrode wire with 0,045" diameter (1,14 mm) ;
- Current : 260 amperes ;
- Voltage :  $26 \pm 1$  volts ;
- Wire feed rate : 430 ipm. (approximately) ;
- Feed speed : 12 ipm ;
- Shielding gas : 75% argon - 25% CO<sub>2</sub> or 100% CO<sub>2</sub>.

If necessary and with great care to prevent perforating the material, it is possible to use a conventional electric arc welding machine according to the following specifications:

- SMAW (Shield Metal-Arc Welding) process ;
  - Welding rod conforms to A5.1 of AWS (American Welding Standards) specifications ;
  - E 7018 type welding rod with 3/32" diameter (2,4 mm) ;
  - Current: horizontal - 50 amperes to 100 amperes (optimized at 85 amperes).
    - up - 50 amperes to 100 amperes (optimized at 85 amperes).
    - overhead - 50 amperes to 100 amperes (optimized at 85 amperes).
6. Reconnect components mentioned at step 4.
  7. Install wheels and lower tag axle.

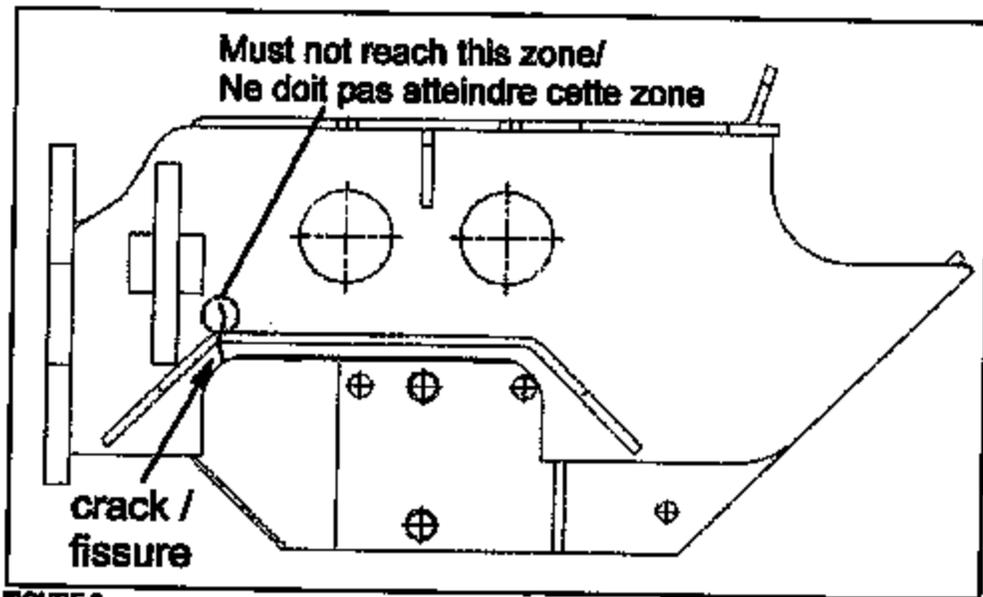


FIGURE 2

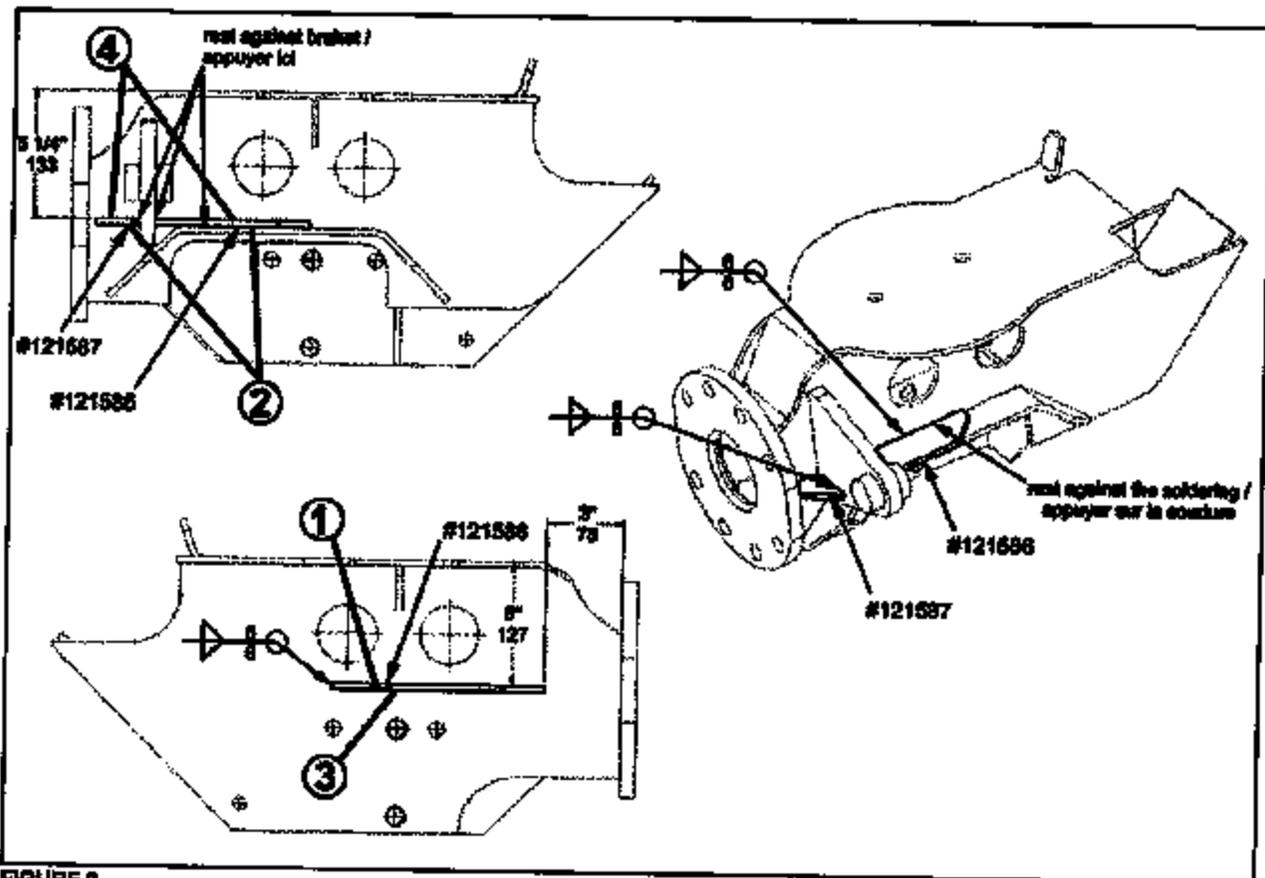


FIGURE 3

## WARRANTY

This modification is covered by Prévost Car's normal warranty. We will reimburse you the parts and two and one half hours (2.5) of labour upon receipt of a completed A.F.A. form on which you must specify as per "Safety Recall 00-37".

November 30, 2000

**DEFECT NOTIFICATION**

Dear Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of U.S.A.

Prévoist Car Inc. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 1990-2001 XL-40 and XL-45 coaches, MTH-45E, H3-40, H3-41 and H3-45 coaches. Prévoist Car Inc., as coach manufacturer, has recently noticed that:

On the above-mentioned vehicles having a high mileage or submitted to severe working conditions, the tag axle may develop fatigue cracks and eventually a tag axle failure. This could have adverse effects on the handling of the vehicle. If you are the owner or operator of such vehicle, it is of the utmost importance to have the tag axle inspected right away. Reinforcement parts must be installed and cracks repaired if necessary in order to strengthen the tag axle. For more information or help on how to perform this safety recall, contact your service manager or the nearest service center.

H3-40, H3-41 & H3-45 Coaches Model Year: 1990 - 2001	From 2P9H33408L1001031 up to 2PCH3349711014181 incl.
XL-40 and XL-45 Coaches Model Year: 1994 - 1995	From 2P9L33408R1001775 up to 2P9L33402S1001847 incl.
MTH-45E Model Year: 1994 - 1995	From 2P9E33492R1001777 up to 2P9E33492S1001838 incl.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:**

You must refer to the enclosed Safety Recall no. 00-37 and perform the stated procedure.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENT:**

In order to verify and document the corrective action taken on your vehicle(s) pursuant to the requirements of the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations, we are enclosing a "SAFETY RECALL CERTIFICATION" sheet. When the vehicle(s) is (are) repaired, this (these) sheet(s) must be completed and returned to PRÉVOIST CAR INC. head office.

**LABOR & PARTS REIMBURSEMENT:**

Prévoist Car Inc. will reimburse you parts and labor incurred.

Federal laws require that you be informed of your right to notify the Department of Transportation if you are unable to have the defect remedied without charge. The address for this purpose is:

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Washington, DC 20590  
USA

Auto Safety Hotline: 1-800-424-9393 nationally and, 202-368-0123 for Washington DC area residents.

If any assistance is required, please contact your local distributor or the PRÉVOIST CAR INC. after sales service department.

We regret any inconvenience which this situation may cause you. However, we are concerned about your safety, rest assured that PRÉVOIST CAR INC. is making all efforts to remedy the defect as quickly as possible in the interest of motor vehicle safety.

Truly yours,



Jocysne Côté, E.I.T.  
Technical Publications Manager.



**PREVOST**

**Safety Recall  
Certification Sheet  
(Ref: Sr00-37)**

certified company  
**ISO 9001 & ISO 14001**



**SERIAL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

PERFORMED BY		OWNER/OPERATOR	
We hereby certify that Safety Recall Instructions with regards to Safety Recall #00-37 have been performed.			
Name: _____	Name: _____		
Addr: _____	Addr: _____		
Phone: _____		Phone: _____	
Fax: _____		Fax: _____	
Signature : _____	Signature : _____		
Date: _____	Date: _____		

**If the information mentioned above is incorrect or you are not the owner of this vehicle anymore, please fill this section and return to sender.**

**NEW OWNER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BUSINESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this completed document with your  
A.F.A. form**