

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment

Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

Date: November 21, 2013

This report serves as Collins Bus Corporation's notification to the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard FMVSS 209 exists in certain seat belt assemblies that are equipped with IMMI'S L9 end-release seat belt buckles. Collins Bus Corporation decided that this defect existed in these vehicles on November 14, 2013.

I. Manufacturer, Designated Agent, and Other Chain of Distribution Information

Manufacturer's Corporate Name: Collins Bus Corporation

Vehicle brand: Collins, Collins Corbeil, Collins Mid Bus models SL400, SH400, DH400, DH416, DH416WR, DH500, DH516, DE516, DE516WR

Concerned Component Manufacturer:

Indiana Mills and Manufacturing Inc.

18881 US 31 North

Westfield, IN 46074

Inquiries about this report should be directed to:

Ginger Markus, Warranty Coordinator

Collins Bus Corporation

415 West 6th Street

South Hutchinson, KS 67505

(800) 533-1850, Ext. 424

Email: ginger.markus@collinsbus.com

Fax: 620-662-3838

II. Identification of the Recall Population and Its Size

Make: IMMI L9 end-release seat belt buckles

Model: L9 (part number 916030)

Model Year: 2013

Inclusive dates of manufacture: August 20, 2013- November 13, 2013

Body Style/Type: School Bus and Multi-Functional School Activity Bus

Total number of these vehicles: 333

Collins Bus Corporation determined that the affected buses were limited to these models equipped with IMMI's L9 seat belt buckles manufactured from August 8, 2013 thru November 13, 2013 with suspect codes ranging from 13220 through 13256 and 214 13 through 256 13. Previously manufactured units did not contain the affected IMMI's L9 seat belt buckles. Subsequently manufactured units do not contain the defect.

III. Description of the Defect or Noncompliance and Chronology of Events

On November 14, 2013 Collins Bus Corporation received a call from IMMI stating that the L9 end-release seat belt is not in compliance with FMVSS 209. Certain IMMI seat belt assemblies equipped with L9 buckles end-release seat belt buckles do not satisfy the requirements of FMVSS 209. When the push button on the buckle is pressed to release the latch plate for egress, the latch plate can become partially engaged with the buckle. Under this circumstance, the partially engaged latch plate may not separate from the buckle when a force of 22N is applied.

IV. The Remedy Program and Its Schedule

Collins Bus Corporation will notify customers that received the suspect seat belt assemblies of this noncompliance decision and Collins Bus will work with those customers to provide replacement buckles for all vehicles that were sold with the potentially noncompliant seat belt assemblies.

As of November 19, 2013 IMMI had production remedies in place to prevent future defects. Collins Bus Corporation implemented a containment and replacement program for all affected L9 end-release seat belts on site. Dealer Notifications will be issued by December 1, 2013. Owner notification will be issued by December 1, 2013. All modifications should be completed by July 2014.