



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

November 27, 2018

Mr. George D'Amato
Quality Manager
Coach and Equipment Mfg Corp.
130 Horizon Park Drive
Penn Yan, NY 14527

NEF-150MR
18V-796

Subject: Seat Back may not Stay Upright

Dear Mr. D'Amato:

This letter serves to acknowledge Coach and Equipment Mfg Corp.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

COACH AND EQUIPMENT/METRO LITE/2015-2018
COACH AND EQUIPMENT/PHOENIX/2015-2018

Mfr's Report Date: November 12, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-796

Components:

SEATS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 864

Problem Description:

Coach and Equipment Mfg Corp. (Coach and Equipment) is recalling certain 2015-2018 Coach and Equipment Phoenix and Metro lite transit buses, equipped with Freedman GO-ES Foldaway Seats, part numbers 43705, 45467, 48923, and 75719. When the back seat cushion is rotated from the stowed position to the upright position, the seat cushion may not remain locked into place when under load, such as in a crash or a sudden stop.

Consequence:

In the event of a crash, if the seat back moves, the seat occupant has an increased risk of injury.

Remedy:

Coach and Equipment has notified owners, and Freedman Seating will repair the foldaway seat, free of charge. The recall began November 26, 2018. Owners may contact Coach and Equipment customer service at 1-800-724-8464. Coach and Equipment's number for this recall is 18E-076.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

NHTSA is missing critical, required information for this safety recall. This information must be supplied through the NHTSA Recalls Portal within 5 working days of confirming its accuracy:

- The percentage of products estimated to contain the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(4)).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, 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. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement