



Tech Tip 15-0303-1

MicroBird G5 Rear Interior Panels

There have been instances where the plastic trim panels around the rear windows (Figure 1) cracked. There was concern these were structural panels and once they cracked the unit needed to be taken out of service. Attached is a letter from Microbird which clearly states these are not structural and are for aesthetic purposes only.



Figure 1



October 15th 2012

New York Bus Sales,
7765 Lakeport Road
Chittenango, New York 13037
USA

To whom it may concern,

It has been brought to our attention that, in a routine inspection, a New-York DOT inspector has found a crack in the thermo plastic part surrounding the rear glass next to the emergency door. The following question was then raised: "Does this part have any structural purpose?"

In fact, it doesn't. This is what we call an esthetic trim to enhance the interior appearance of the bus which, at the same time, prevents exposure to sharp edges behind the trim for the occupants. In addition to fixing these trims with rivets, they are glued all around to the different panels with joint strength glue. It means that, even if this thermo plastic part has a crack, it will neither compromise the structural integrity of the bus nor jeopardize the safety of the passengers.

If you have any more concerns or questions, do not hesitate to contact me.
Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "François Lafond".

François Lafond, Eng. M.Sc.
Production / Engineering Manager



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