

August 3, 2007

PRIORITY : IMMEDIATE ATTENTION AND RESPONSE REQUIRED

To : All NMEDA QAP Structural Modifiers

Subject: Ford E250/E350 (2008 model year) Lowered Floor Safety Notification

Ford has made front end changes to all of the 2008 Econolines. These changes required Ford to relocate and recalibrate the airbag Restraint Control Module (RCM). As a result of Ford's recalibration, NMEDA can no longer state that the airbags on the lowered floor E250/E350 described in the "Six (6) inch Lowered Floor Manufacturing Guidelines" will perform in an appropriate manner on 2008 model year vehicles. The efficiency, reliability and safety of the airbag system are unknown until the vehicle is subjected to crash testing.

Until further notice, NMEDA is **withdrawing the right to use the manuals for 2008 model year Ford E250 and E350** vehicles and you **may not** use the manual as a basis for compliance or any other safety statement for 2008 model year Ford E250 and E350 . You need not physically return the manual at this time. You may continue to use the manuals for 2004 – 2007 model years.

In order for NMEDA to determine the relevance of conducting airbag crash testing on the 2008 Evans and therefore reinstate the right to use the manuals on 2008 model year vehicles, we need to know how many members will be using a lowered floor manual for the 2008 Ford E250 and E350. Please complete the survey (included) and return it *promptly* by fax. By not returning the survey, you will be indicating that you do not want any NMEDA vehicle modification manuals and, depending on the total responses to the survey, NMEDA may cease to offer vehicle modification manuals.

In the interim, lowered floor Ford Econolines (E150, E250 and E350) can be obtained from other NMEDA members that are currently conducting airbag crash testing on the 2008 model year.

Thank you for your understanding.

Dana Roeling,
On behalf of the NMEDA Board of Directors