



2010 43QGP Allegro Bus

1/6/2012

FORTY-SIXTH - coach modification - **COACH INSIDE ASSIST HANDLE.** When we purchased this coach the handle was missing some of the tape, or so we thought. Regardless the dealer re-taped the handle for us. Over the past year we have seen many coaches and they all had the same tape on the handle.



Yesterday after seeing the black tape had begun to unravel I decide to remove the handle after cleaning the residue from both the glass and metal then re-tape and reinstall the handle.

After removing the screws holding the handle in place I found the glass rod is just inserted into the lower metal bracket with a "O" ring used as a seal. The "O" ring was not tight thus allowed both the metal and glass rod to move around. That combination did not look very stable to be used as an assist handle. The lower handle houses the LED which when turned ON illuminates the glass rod.



The "O" ring is a standard R14 1/8 inch thick ring. I decided to replace the "O" ring with a ring the same inside and outside diameter but was thicker 3/32 inch instead of the OEM 1/8 inch thickness. The ring was lubricated to allow the glass rod to be easier inserted into the metal end bracket.



As seen in the two photos IMO the intent of the original black tape was to keep the lower metal bracket from being disconnected from the upper metal handle with the glued in glass rod from being separated DURING SHIPMENT. I think after making this modification the assist handle as it is now installed, is how the manufacturer intended the handle to ALWAYS look after installation.

