



BUS CHAT



Bus Frames

Post by: matzeinusa

Just wondering. Is the frame of the PD4106 steel or aluminum?

Post by: richard5933

There is no frame on a 4106, at least not in the traditional sense. Same for nearly all GM intercity coaches. They are true monocoque construction with the bulkheads, lower bay floor, and shell making a structural unibody construction, similar to an airplane's fuselage. There are some steel panels involved, like around some of the windows, the front and rear caps, and a few other places. The remainder of the construction is aluminum but for some structural steel in the engine cradles and a few other supporting sub-structures.

Truly an engineering marvel that our GM buses roll down the road with no frame rails.

Post by: TwoFeathersRD

Here is a photo of the underside of a 4106 we just purchased:



Post by: luvrbus

MCI's and Prevost have no frame either, GM has steel roof bows for roll over protection and engine mounts from the roof, GM's have enough steel to rust though.

Post by: 6805eagleGuy

Can someone tell me if an MCI-DL3 has frame rails?

Post by: luvrbus

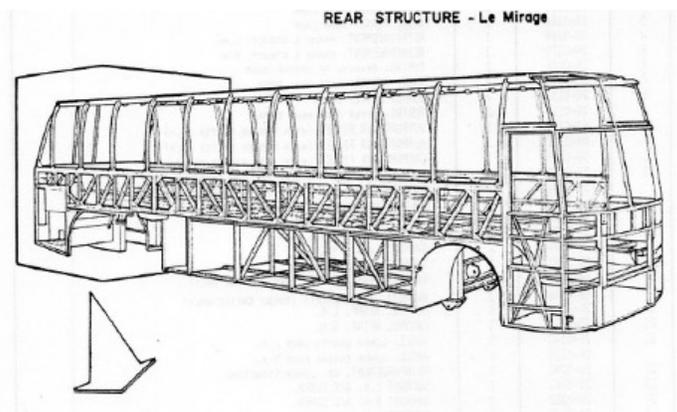
There is no frame on the MCI DL3.

Post by: richard5933

Don't MCI and Prevost buses have more of an exoskeleton than a GM bus? If you pulled off the skins on one of those you would still have the outline of a bus made by the exoskeleton. On a GM, pull off the skins and not much is left.

Post by: freds

Yes, Prevost's do have an exoskeleton. I found this diagram in the parts manual.



Plus, when I was installing my solar panels, I first drilled through aluminum and then steel.

Post by: richard5933

"On a GM, pull off the skins and not much is left." And you think that is a good thing? :)

Post by: dtcerrato

Yes, it's monocoque, and needs no exoskeleton. Neither does our Grand Cherokee toad.