



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 13-028
Date Opened: 08/26/2013
Investigator: Peter Kivett **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Sway Bar End Link Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Spartan Motors, Inc.
Products: MY 2009 - 2013 Spartan Motorhome Chassis
Population: 756
Problem Description: The sway bar end links bend or break during a binding condition when the vehicle suspension is in jounce.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	0	0
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	28	28

*Description of Other: Warranty Claims

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open a Preliminary Evaluation (PE).

Summary:

On March 1, 2013 Spartan Chassis, Inc. released a Campaign Service Bulletin (CSB) 12-250-02 involving sway bar end link failures for certain motorhome chassis manufactured between 4-2-2009 and 1-14-2013.

Customer claims of clunking or a popping noise coming from the front of the vehicle were found to be attributed to sway bar end links that were broken or bent. The end links were subject to binding during jounce of the suspension. On June 4, 2013 Spartan furnished ODI preliminary data including population, complaint and warranty information related to the CSB. Twenty-eight of the claims alleged sway bar noise or failures.

This Preliminary Evaluation is being opened to determine the risk to motor vehicle safety potentially resulting from a failed sway bar end link on the subject vehicles.