

Form Approved: O.M.B. No. 2127-0004

**Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles**  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report<sup>1</sup>**

On December 8, 2003, Spartan Motors [MFR] decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety) (a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. \_\_\_\_\_) exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: 1-22-04

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 03V-S17

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Travel Supreme

P.O. Box 610

Indianapolis, IN 46578

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Don Brubaker - Warranty Director

Debra Dodge

Telephone Number: 574-862-1960 Fax No.: 574-862-2625

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Debra S. Dodge

Signed: Debra S. Dodge

<sup>1</sup>Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

**I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall**

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Spartan Chassis Model Years Involved: 2003-2004 Model(s): Mountain Master

Production Dates: Beginning: 2003 Ending: 2004

VIN Range: Beginning: 4V2BR109740048<sup>492</sup> Ending: 4V2BR1B9340046288

Vehicle Type: Motortruck Bodystyle: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Mountain Master model chassis with UDM dates 5-30-9-12-03,  
containing 45 degree fittings on hydraulic pump rather than 90° fitting

Make(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Model Years Involved: \_\_\_\_\_ Model(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Production Dates: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

VIN Range: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Bodystyle: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Make(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Model Years Involved: \_\_\_\_\_ Model(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Production Dates: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

VIN Range: Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Bodystyle: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

## II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
<del>Master Master</del>	2004	<del>38</del>
36 DS03 = 3	2004	3
38 DS02		1
38 DS03		9
38 DS04		10
40 DS01		1
40 DS03		2
40 DS04		15
45 DS01		1
Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:		<u>38</u>

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 100%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined—in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

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Defect or Noncompliance Report

Spartan Chassis, Inc.

All Mountain Master chassis built after an engineering change dated 4-21-03 to 45 degree fittings on hydraulic pump to stop ship date of 6-15-03.

### III. DESCRIBE THE DEFECT OR NONCOMPLIANCE

The angle of the hoses from the hydraulic pump may allow contact with the positive stud on the starter, which chafes the outer coating of the hose through to wire braiding and results in arcing and eventual contact with hydraulic fluid which can ignite.

Hydraulic hose angle and/or routing may allow close contact with starter.

May result in ignition of hydraulic fluid.

No warning, although visual inspection would indicate whether hoses were chafing against starter stud.

Generic Component Name:	
Supplier Part Number:	
Spartan Part Number:	
Supplier Corporate Name:	<i>Spartan</i>
Address:	<i>1765 Reynolds Road Charlotte, Mi 48013</i>
CEO or Knowledgeable Rep:	

Defect &amp; Noncompliance Report

Spartan Chassis, Inc.

**IV. PROVIDE THE CHRONOLOGY IN DETERMINING THE DEFECT/NONCOMPLIANCE***If the recall is for a defect, complete item 8, otherwise item 7.*

[REDACTED]

8-8-03: BO 45481 (Damon) reported hydraulic fluid fire at hydraulic pump/hose assembly.

[REDACTED]

n/a

**V. IDENTIFY THE REMEDY**

[REDACTED]

The remedy consists of changing at minimum one 45 degree fitting installed on the pump to a 90 degree fitting and replacing hose assembly on the vehicles with Cummins IGL engines and 39MT Delco starter. The remedy on IRL and ISC Engines with 42MT Delco starter consists of changing one fitting at the rear of the hydraulic pump and re-routing a hose.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

At least one 90 degree fitting will be installed at the rear of the hydraulic pump.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Production remedy was implemented on September 13, 2003, and is identical to the field remedy.

**VI. IDENTIFY THE RECALL SCHEDULE**

[REDACTED]

Notification will commence upon receipt of Recall Number from NHTSA. Vehicles still located at customer's manufacturing facilities will be corrected on-site prior to shipment to retailers.

Defect &amp; Nonconformance Report

Spartan Controls, Inc.

## VII. FURTHER RECALL COMMUNICATIONS

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DATE AND METHOD SUBMITTED
Notification letter to other manufacturers	
Draft Notification letter to purchasers	
Press release (if applicable)	
Recall Service Bulletin (RSB)	
Notification Envelope	Pre-approved

All documents to be faxed to 502-500-7993, then mailed.

NIHSA-assigned number will be used. Internal identification number is 03020.

*Engineering Department*

December 17, 2003

04V-032 ⑦ of ⑧

Travel Supreme  
Don Brubaker  
P.O. Box 810  
Wakarusa, IN 46573

**RE: NHTSA Recall No. 03V-617**

Dear Don:

Spartan Chassis is recalling certain Mountain Master (MM) chassis models with a Delco 39MT Starter and Cummins ISL Engine and certain MM Models with a Delco 42MT Starter and a Cummins ISC or ISL Engine.

The reason for the recall is that the configuration and arrangement of hydraulic fittings at pump allow contact of hose assembly and starter terminals. This has the potential for ignition of hydraulic fluid. This would create a safety hazard to the occupants or other persons/property surrounding the vehicle. A copy of the Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report filed with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is included for your review.

We will contact all owners of these units that are affected by this recall as required by NHTSA. You will be receiving electronically a list of VINs that are involved in the recall, and a request to provide your most current location information for those not registered with Spartan Chassis. It is important that we receive this information as soon as possible in order to notify affected dealers of vehicles that must be remedied prior to retail sale.

If you have any questions concerning this recall or the population involved, please feel free to contact me at (517) 543-6400, ext. 336, or a Customer Service representative at (800) 363-6661, Option 3.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Boucher  
Compliance Administrator

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF  
DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. 04V-517 by the  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: December 8, 2003      DATE FAXED: December 10, 2003

**MANUFACTURER:** Spartan Chassis Inc.

**MANUFACTURER CONTACT:** Mr Kimberly Boncher  
Compliance Administrator

**FAX:** 517-543-7729

**SUBJECT:** 203 Spartan 2003-2004 Mountain Master motorhomes manufactured from May 6, 2003 through September 12, 2003. The angle of the hoses from the hydraulic pump may allow contact with the positive stud on the starter resulting in ignition of hydraulic fluid. Spartan Recall No. 03028.

This is an acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment will be written ONLY if we have additional comments or concerns.

Please provide us with a draft owner notification letter.

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during December 2003. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by April 30, 2004.

If you have any questions, please call:

*JT* Judy Taylor, Safety Defect Analyst on (202) 366-9525

or George Patton, Chief at (202) 366-5210  
or by FAX (202) 366-7882  
Recall Management Division  
[Judy.Taylor@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:Judy.Taylor@nhtsa.dot.gov)



# SPARTAN CHASSIS, INC.

NHTSA # 03V-517

RSB03-160-001

December, 2003

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## RECALL SERVICE BULLETIN

- SUBJECT:** Hydraulic Fluid Leak
- APPLIES TO:** Certain Mountain Master (MM) Chassis Models with a Delco 39MT Starter and Cummins ISL Engine and Certain MM Models with a Delco 42MT Starter and a Cummins ISC or ISL Engine.
- CONDITION:** Potential for Ignition of Hydraulic Fluid
- CAUSE:** The configuration and arrangement of hydraulic fittings at pump allow contact of hose assembly & starter terminals.
- CORRECTION:** Replace and/or reorient hydraulic fittings at pump and replace hose as required.

**PART INFORMATION:** Labor Hours: 1.5 Hrs.

QTY	Part Number	Description
1	S-1616-001	Kit-Hyd Pump; MM ISL w/39MT - COACHMEN
1	S-1616-002	Kit-Hyd Pump; MM ISL w/39MT - EXCEPT COACHMEN
1	S-1616-003	Kit-Hyd Pump; MM ISC and ISL w/42MT
as required	N/A	Hydraulic Fluid

Kit #S-1616-001 Contains:

QTY	Part Number	Description
1	0722-MM5-SS09	Fitting- 90°
1	0722-MM5-PP18	Fitting- Straight
64"	12E37-212J112J0	Hose Assembly-Preassembled
1	RSB03-160-001	Document- Bulletin Instructions

Kit #S-1616-002 Contains:

QTY	Part Number	Description
1	0722-MM5-SS09	Fitting- 90°
1	0722-MM5-PP18	Fitting- Straight
72"	12E37-212J112J0	Hose Assembly- Preassembled
1	RSB03-160-001	Document- Bulletin Instructions



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## RECALL SERVICE BULLETIN

**Kit #S-1616-003 Contains:**

QTY	Part Number	Description
1	0722-MMS-SS09	Fitting- 90°
1	S332SSQ28	Loop Clamp- 1.75"
1	RSB03-160-001	Document- Bulletin Instructions

**PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE BULLETIN BEFORE  
PROCEEDING WITH ANY WORK.**

### STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

#### **A. PREP/INSPECT**

1. Observe all industry safety standards and appropriately secure vehicle to drain the hydraulic system and perform hydraulic pump rework.

2. Drain hydraulic reservoir (into an approved container) by disconnecting the suction hose at the pump and reconnecting when fluid is drained. Properly dispose of fluid.

**Note:** The hydraulic system must be kept free from all contaminants. The system may be capped-off at the reservoir to avoid draining and refilling the entire system.

3. For ISC engines, use kit #S-1616-003 and proceed to Section B for rework procedure.

4. For ISL engines:

The differences between the 39MT and 42MT starter are significant and can be easily identified. Refer to FIG. 2-1. The 39MT is approximately 1.0" smaller in diameter (4.25"), has a silver-colored casting, and a cable connecting the starter to the solenoid.

**39MT - Cable connecting solenoid.**



**42MT - Metal strap connecting solenoid.**



**FIG. 2-1**



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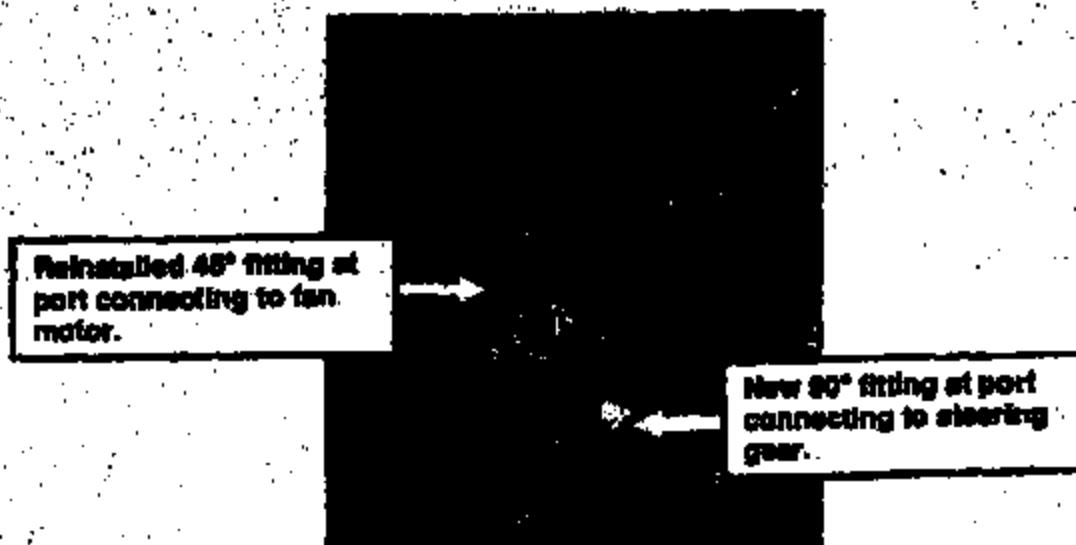
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## RECALL SERVICE BULLETIN

- 4a. If the starter is a model 42MT, proceed to Section B for rework procedure.
- 4b. If the starter is a model 39MT and has a Coachman body, use kit #S-1616-001 and proceed to Section C to for rework procedure.
- 4c. All other ISL engines with a model 39MT starter, use kit #S-1616-002 and proceed to Section C for rework procedure.

### B ISL & ISL with 42MT PROCEDURE

5. At the hydraulic pump, disconnect hose to the steering gear and fan motor.
6. Remove the 45° fitting from the fan port and retain for reinstallation.
7. Remove the 45° fitting from the steering port and dispose of properly.
8. Refer to FIG. 3-1. Install the new 90° fitting into the steering port on the pump; positioning at 8:00 o'clock relative to the installed location of the pump. Torque nut to 27 +/- 2 lb. ft.



**FIG. 3-1**

9. Reinstall the 45° fitting into the fan motor port on the pump; positioning at 1:00 o'clock relative to the installed location of the pump. Torque nut to 60 +/- 2.5 lb. ft.
10. Connect hose from steering gear to the new 90° fitting on the pump.



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## RECALL SERVICE BULLETIN

11. Before connecting the fan motor hose to the pump, it must be rerouted.

Route hose from the fan motor, over the flywheel housing (rather than under), and connect to the 45° fitting at the pump.

- 11a. Install a loop clamp to the transmission case/flywheel housing bolt closest to the dipstick tube as viewed from the top of the transmission. Refer to FIG. 4-1. If a clamp exists at a different transmission case/flywheel housing bolt, relocate it to accommodate the routing as shown. Torque bolt to 41 +/- 3 lb. ft.

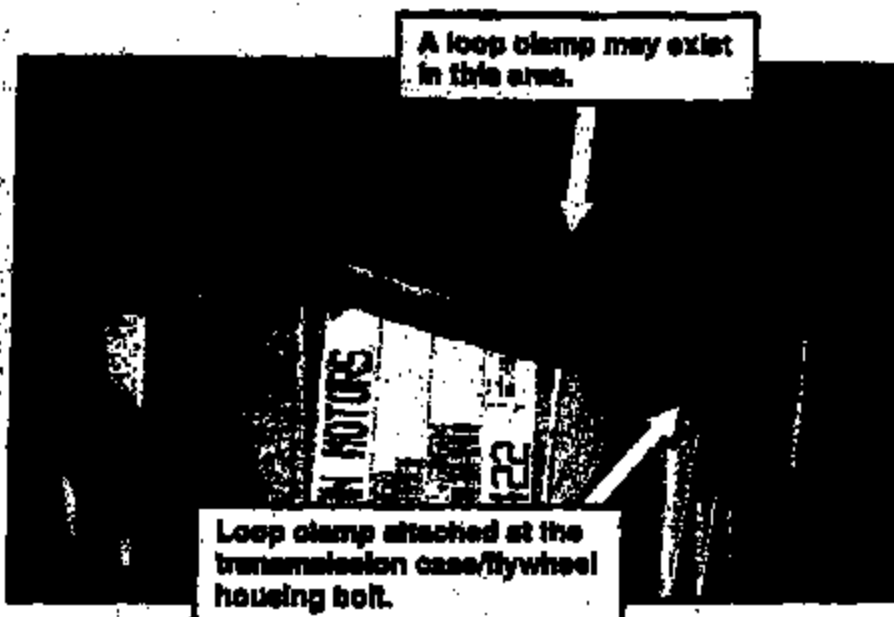


FIG. 4-1

12. Check both hose routings to insure they are not near a heat source or an area where chafing can occur. If an adjustment is necessary, loosen and reposition fittings on pump. Torque to values in steps #8 and #9.
13. Refer to FIG. 5-1. Secure the fan motor hose to fuel hose with a tie strap. It is acceptable to capture the gird heater harness as shown.
14. Proceed to Section D to refill and purge the hydraulic system.



# SPARTAN CHASSIS, INC.

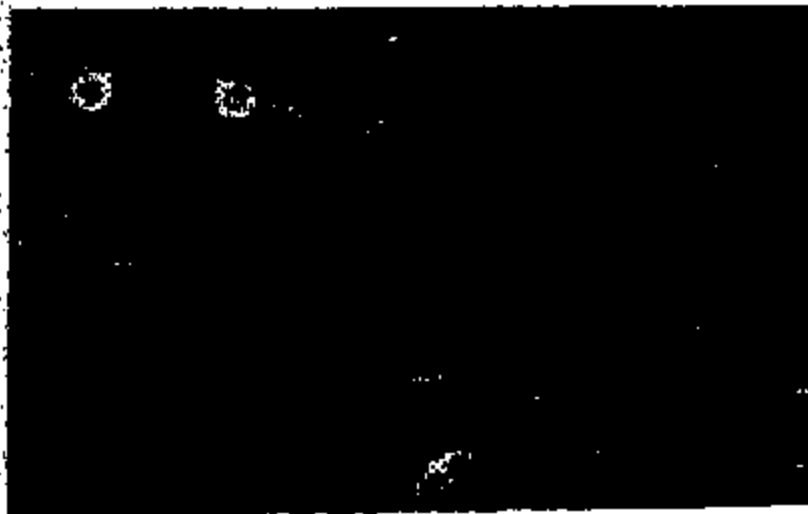
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## RECALL SERVICE BULLETIN



**FIG. 5-1**

### C. ISL with 39MT PROCEDURE

15. Disconnect and properly dispose of the hose assembly between the hydraulic pump and the fan motor.
16. At the pump, disconnect the hose routed from the steering gear; protect/cap-off hose end to prevent contamination.
17. Remove and properly dispose of the fittings in the steering gear port and the fan motor port at the rear of the hydraulic pump.
18. Refer to the rear view of the pump in FIG. 5-2. Install new 90° fitting into the steering gear port, and orient within the 7 and 8 o'clock positions. Torque nut to 27 +/- 2 lb. ft.
19. Install new straight fitting in the fan motor port at the rear of the pump. Torque fitting to 90 +/- 5 lb. ft.

New straight fitting at port connecting to fan motor gear.

New 90° fitting at port connecting to steering gear.

**FIG. 5-2**



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## RECALL SERVICE BULLETIN

20. Connect hose routed from the steering gear, to the 90° fitting on the pump.
21. Install new hose assembly between the pump and fan motor, with 90° fitting connected at the pump.

### D. REFILL AND PURGE HYDRAULIC SYSTEM

22. Refill the hydraulic reservoir until it is close to full with the appropriate fluid as stated on the reservoir information label. DO NOT steer.

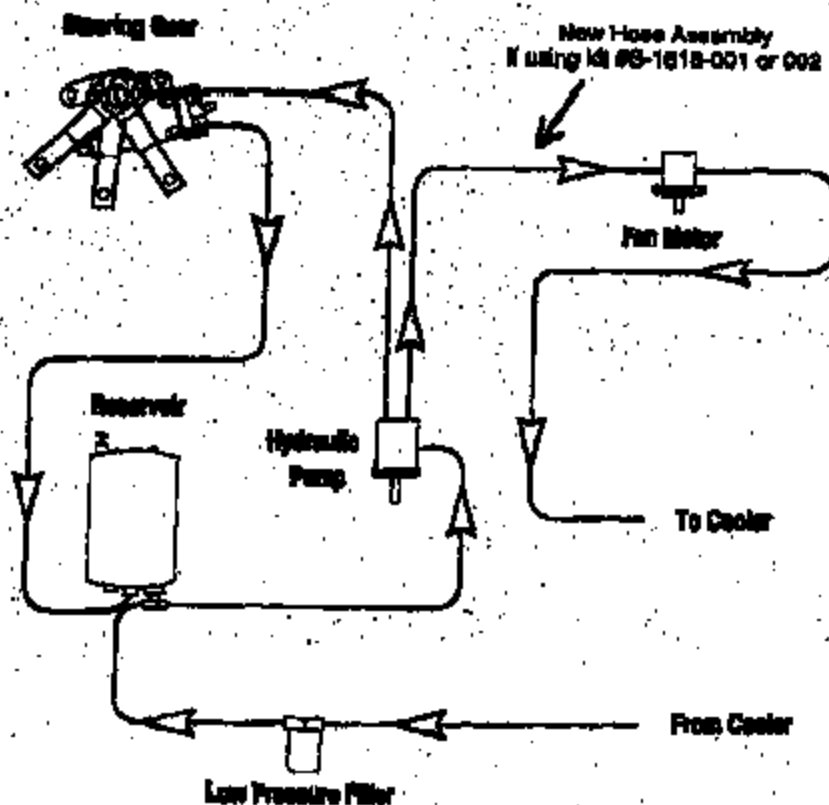


FIG. 6-1



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RSH03-160-001

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## RECALL SERVICE BULLETIN

23. Start and run the engine for 10 seconds, then shut it off.
24. Check and refill reservoir.
25. Repeat steps 22 through 24 at least 3 times.
26. Start engine and idle for 2 minutes. DO NOT steer.
27. Shut engine off and check fluid level. Refill if necessary.
28. Start engine and steer vehicle from full left to full right several times. Add fluid as necessary to the full line on the dipstick.



**Travel Supreme, Inc.**  
Recreational Vehicles

January 22, 2004

04V-032

NHTSA  
Office of Defects Investigation  
400 7<sup>th</sup> St. S.W.  
Washington DC 20590

Att: Recall #03V-517

Dear NHTSA:

We have received the following chassis's from Spartan and have assembled Motor Homes on them. The following are the model numbers and the total units that Spartan has under this recall.

The following information was given to Spartan along with the contact names and addresses of the individuals regarding this recall.

If you need any other information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Debbie Dodge  
Travel Supreme

RECEIVED  
JAN JUN 22 P 2 48  
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Vin #	T/R #	Last	First	Address	City	State	Zip
45486	814	Quincy	Ernie	20721 Canyon Dr.	Granite Falls	WA	98252
45489	823	Roadshow Coach		10940 I-10 Service Road	New Orleans	LA	70127
45500	828	Roadshow Coach		10940 I-10 Service Road	New Orleans	LA	70127
45568	820	USRV		71 County St.	Berkeley	MA	2779
45570	834	Coulee Region		W3282 Hwy B	West Salem	WI	54889
45571	835	American RV		11810 Central SE	Alb	NM	87123
45604	838	American RV		11810 Central SE	Alb	NM	87123
45797	838	Western MC		6118 A Pacific Hwy East	File	WA	98424
45799	837	Finger	Robert	PO Box 194	Houston	TX	77001
45838	852	McCullum	Herbert	2238 Spain St.	New Orleans	LA	70117
45837	853	Westgate		1460 Byland Road	Kelowna	BC	V1Z1A7
45878	868	American RV		11810 Central SE	Alb	NM	87123
45878	869	Quality RV		12601 S. Minuteman Drive	Draper	UT	84021
45879	862	Westgate		1460 Byland Road	Kelowna	BC	V1Z1A7
46049	874	American RV		6805 N. Desert Blvd	Anthony	TX	79821
46050	878	Ron Hoover		1510 W. Market St	Rockport	TX	78382
46051	873	Balzarwa's RV		382 Broad St.	Delta	PA	17314
46055	878	Ron Hoover		1510 W. Market St	Rockport	TX	78382
46058	880	Western MC		6118 A Pacific Hwy East	File	WA	98424
46057	881	American RV		6805 N. Desert Blvd	Anthony	TX	79821
46058	883	American RV		6805 N. Desert Blvd	Anthony	TX	79821
46063	887	Ron Hoover		1510 W. Market St	Rockport	TX	78382
46064	889	Camper Coaches		1701 S. Loop 289	Lubbock	TX	79423
46065	891	Groseclose	James	1012 S. Tollgate Road	Bel Air	MD	21014
46068	885	American RV		6805 N. Desert Blvd	Anthony	TX	79821
46176	899	Domiano		12210 Beach Blvd	Stanton	CA	90680
46183	903	Premier		1400 Leisure Way	Clarksville	IN	47129
46184	901	Emerson	David	2417 170th Pl S.E.	Bellevue	WA	98008
46185	905	Carolina Coach		3300 Centennial Blvd	Hickory	NC	28610
46188	907	10,000 RV		5825 Kearing Villa Suite 100	San Diego	CA	92111
46274	909	Coachlight		5327 S. Garrison Ave.	Carthage	MO	64838
46275	911	M&M		2980 W. Jefferson	Trenton	MI	48183
46276	913	Carolina Coach		3300 Centennial Blvd	Hickory	NC	28610
46277	923	10,000 RV		5825 Kearing Villa Suite 100	San Diego	CA	92111
46285	915	Nason	Ron	18517 Vineyard Point Lane	Cornelius	NC	28031

46286  
46287  
46288

917 16,000 RV  
921 Westgate  
925 Elsdon

Bob

6925 Keating Villa Suite 100  
1480 Byland Road  
18559 28th Ave

San Diego  
Kelowna  
Surrey

CA  
BC  
BC

92111  
V1Z1A7  
V3B9W8