

ROAD RESCUE

2914 Spartan Place - Marion, S.C. - 29571

573 DEFECT & NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT

05-V153
(5 pages)

Description: Field-effect transistor failure

Internal Code: RR-0001

Date of Report: 4/11/2005

Submitted to: Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Attn: Mr. Sonny Murianka, Office of Defects Investigation
Fax: (202) 366-2331

Manufacturer Identification: Road Rescue, Inc.
2914 Spartan Place
Marion, SC 29571

Telephone: (843) 676-2900

Corporate contacts for recall information:

Customer Notification and Customer Service: Report prepared by:

Contact Name	Gary Elms
Product Improvement Administrator	Customer Service Manager
Phone	843-676-2931
Fax	843-676-2931

Preparer's Signature: Gary Elms

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
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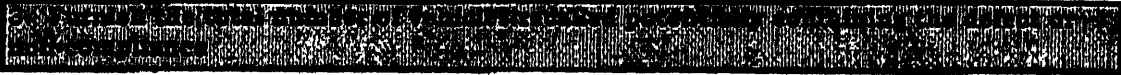
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

I. IDENTIFY THE VEHICLE MODELS INVOLVED IN THE RECALL



Make:	Road Rescue		
Model:	All Road Rescue Ambulances with Smart Display Electrical System		
Model Years Involved:	2002-2005		
Vehicle Type:	Ambulance		
Weight Range:	From GVWR: 11,000	To GVWR:	25,000
Weight Class:	From Class: 3	To Class:	6
% Potentially Involved:	100%		
Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:			
Only units manufactured with the "Smart Display" electrical system contain the field-effect transistor output (FET) boards in question.			

II. IDENTIFY THE RECALL POPULATION



MODEL	MODEL YEAR	No. POTENTIALLY INVOLVED
All trucks with Smart Display	2002	13
All trucks with Smart Display	2003	157
All trucks with Smart Display	2004	40
All trucks with Smart Display	2005	6
TOTAL:		216



Approximate Defect Percentage: 100 %

[REDACTED]

It was determined that the FET boards in the power distribution for the "Smart Display" need type 2 (manual reset) circuit protection instead of the type 1 (automatic reset) protection.

III. DESCRIBE THE DEFECT OR NONCOMPLIANCE

[REDACTED]

The FET boards in the power distribution panel for the "Smart Display" are equipped with Type 1 circuit protection. Which allow the board to shut down if an over-heating condition or an over current condition is detected. As the board cools down it comes back on, this allows the board to continually cycle to possible failure, if the condition is not corrected.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Possible current overloading and/or fly-back energy from switching inductive loads.

[REDACTED]

The boards can possibly overheat or meltdown.

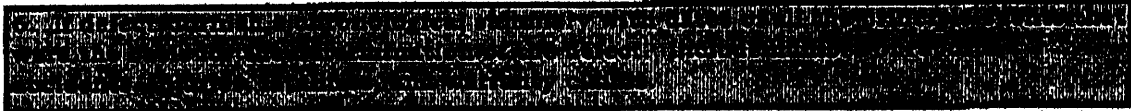
[REDACTED]

The loads that are carried on that FET will cycle on and off or will remain on if the input command is removed. (Example: if a light is on the FET it will cut on and off)

Generic Component Name:	FET Board
Supplier Part Number:	21300-210
Road Rescue Part Number:	SWPL-196210
Supplier Corporate Name:	Data Panel Corporation
Address:	7313 Washington Avenue South Edina, MN 55439
CEO or Knowledgeable Rep:	Jon Haulton / Fred Sauer

IV. PROVIDE THE CHRONOLOGY IN DETERMINING THE DEFECT/NONCOMPLIANCE

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7

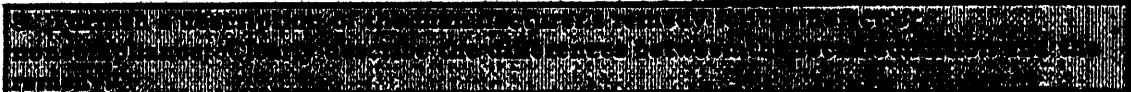


Unit 4345 experienced a problem on 9/29/2004. The operator smelled smoke and noticed smoke coming out of the power distribution. This was caused by the motors for the rotators in the light bar wearing and drawing additional current.

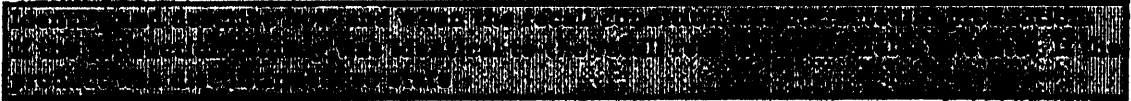
Unit 4630 experienced a problem on 12/25/2004 and reported a melted FET board that controlled the blower motor for the heat and A/C.

Unit 4522 experienced a problem on 3/2/2005 when they noticed all of the lights flashed on in the unit and smelled something. They found a melted board in the power distribution that controlled the lighting. This was caused by a pinched wire that created a short. There were no injuries or fatalities during these incidences.

V. IDENTIFY THE REMEDY



Data Panel has designed a new FET Board that contains type 2 circuit protection. Allowing the board to shut down and requiring a hard reset. The FET board using the type 1 circuit protector could allow a recycling condition to occur without alerting the owner of the vehicle.



The new style boards will be installed in all new units as well as all of the units currently in service.

VI. IDENTIFY THE RECALL SCHEDULE



I am awaiting a production schedule on the new boards from Data Panel. They are currently completing testing of the new boards and will supply a schedule after testing is complete. The change will be implemented upon receipt of the new boards.

VII. FURNISH RECALL COMMUNICATIONS

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION		DATE AND MANNER SUBMITTED	
Recall Service Bulletin (RSB)		TBD	
Notification Envelope			
Notification Letter to Customer		TBD	

All documents to be faxed to 202-366-7882, then mailed.



I am using RR-0001 to track this recall.