


Spartan Chassis, Inc.

1165 Reynolds Road - Charlotte, MI - 48813

573 DEFECT & NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT

05V-283

(5 pages)

Description:	I-Shaft Assembly Can Disconnect (Recall ZF Lenksysteme)		
Internal Code:	SPEC 05022	Date of Report:	6/15/2005

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

 Attn: Mrs. Pat Wallace, Office of Defects Investigation
 Fax: (202) 366-7882

Manufacturer Identification: Spartan Chassis, Inc.
 1165 Reynolds Road
 Charlotte, MI 48813

 Telephone: (517) 543-6400

Corporate contacts for recall information:

Customer Notification and Customer Service:	Report prepared by:
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Product Improvement Administrator	Compliance Administrator
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Preparer's Signature: _____

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

I. IDENTIFY THE VEHICLE MODELS INVOLVED IN THE RECALL

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall:

Make:	Spartan Chassis, Inc.		
Model:	K2 & K3		
Model Years Involved:	2004 and 2005		
Vehicle Type:	Motorhome		
Weight Range:	From GVWR:	46,000	To GVWR: 51,600
Weight Class:	From Class:	8	To Class: 8
Beginning VDM:	10/20/2003	Ending VDM:	9/2/2004
% Potentially Involved:	100%		

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

This is specific to Spartan part numbers 1361-KK1-227 and 1361-KK1-554 per vendor notification.

II. IDENTIFY THE RECALL POPULATION

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or non-compliance

MODEL	MODEL YEAR	No. POTENTIALLY INVOLVED
K3-0002	2004	1
K2-0134	2004	1
K2-0137	2004	3
K2-0138	2004	1
K2-0139	2004	1
K224360-017	2005	10
K224360-018	2005	69
TOTAL:		86

1361-KK1-554	Returned To Vendor	16
1361-KK1-554	Sold to Truck Parts	26
1361-KK1-227	Sold to Truck Parts	3

Truck Parts
1500 Geson Parkway
Grand Rapids 49509
Attn: John Weller

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

Approximate Defect Percentage: 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:

ZF Lenksysteme (Germany) contacted Spartan via letter identifying specific part numbers and quantities involved in their recall. Using these supplied numbers Spartan Chassis Inc. performed a query to create a population. Spartan's population does not reflect the total quantity of defective parts sold by ZF to Spartan as some were resold and some were returned to the vendor.

III. DESCRIBE THE DEFECT OR NONCOMPLIANCE

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

The I-shaft is the mechanical linkage between the steering wheel and the steering gear. At the non-welded side of the I-shaft there is a universal joint. It is possible that the fork / shaft connection could be lost.

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

During the manufacturing process the serration of the press-on fork was broached twice, which caused the press fit connection between the fork and the shaft to be lost.

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

Steerability of the vehicle is lost if fork/shaft connection is lost.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

There would be no warning.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address:

Generic Component Name:	N/A
Supplier Part Number:	7025-974-747 and 7025-974-744
Spartan Part Number:	1361-KK1-227 and 1361-KK1-554
Supplier Corporate Name:	ZF Heavy Duty Steering Inc
Address:	50 Harwill Road St Thomas ON Canada N5P4M6
CEO or Knowledgeable Rep:	David E. Peno Business Unit Manager - Steering Technology

IV. PROVIDE THE CHRONOLOGY IN DETERMINING THE DEFECT/NONCOMPLIANCE

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

6. If defect, furnish a chronological summary with dates of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. Include number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

Per the vendor the manufacturing process was not followed creating a defect.

7. If noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data in chronological order with dates on which the noncompliance was determined.

This issue is a defect situation.

V. IDENTIFY THE REMEDY

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

A verification will be performed with a specially created tool (supplied by ZF). Parts with less than 15kN pull of force will be clearly identified as beyond specification and automatically destroyed and replaced.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

During the field test any parts with less than 15kN pull of force will be clearly identified as beyond specifications and automatically destroyed. The new components will not have damaged serrations.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

This is a vendor recall per their notification. Vendor states that there is 100% process control of force and stroke during press fit connection of fork / shaft, starting 10/02/04.

VI. IDENTIFY THE RECALL SCHEDULE

Furnish a schedule or agenda, with specific dates, for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please identify any foreseeable problems with implementing this recall.

This will be dependent upon ZF Lenksysteme's recall schedule. Letter to OEM's will be mailed 06/17/05.

VII. FURNISH RECALL COMMUNICATIONS

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification.

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

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

The manufacturer's campaign identification number if not identical to the number assigned by NHTSA.

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