

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles

Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report

On July 14, 2005, Newmar Corporation received a notification letter from Spartan Chassis informing of a defect which relates to motor safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

This report was prepared on July 15, 2005.

The manufacturer's identification number for this recall is SPEC 05022.

05V-324
(11 pages)

1. The "Final Stage" vehicle manufacturer.

Newmar Corporation
355 N. Delaware St.
Nappanee, IN 46550

Company contact: Betty Lehr
Warranty Recovery Manager
Consumer Affairs Dept.
(574)773-7791
(574)773-2007 fax

Report prepared by: Chad Sears
Codes and Compliance Manager
(574)773-7791
(574)773-5153 fax

Signed Chad Sears

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

OFFICE OF

2005 JUL 25 P 2:35

RECEIVED
1005-215

2. Identify the vehicle involved in the recall.

The vehicles involved in the recall are certain **2005 Essex Class A Motorhomes**.

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

Twenty-two (22) units. Please find attached to this report a list of units involved in the recall.

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

Please see attached information provided by Spartan Chassis.

5. Describe the defect or non-compliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or non-compliance. 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.

5a. Describe the cause of the defect or noncompliance.

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.

5b. Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Steer ability of the vehicle is lost if fork/shaft connection is lost.

5c. Describe any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

There would be no warning.

5d. If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address:

Spartan Chassis Inc.
1165 Reynolds Road
Charlotte, MI. 48813

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

See attached information provided by Spartan.

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

See attached information provided by Spartan.

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.

8a. Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/ assembly versus the recalled component/ assembly.

See attached information provided by Spartan.

8b. 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.

See attached information provided by Spartan.

8c. Furnish a recall schedule or agenda, with specific dates, for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/ retails, and purchasers. Please identify any foreseeable problems with implementing this recall.

Estimated notification schedule provided by Spartan Chassis.

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.

Provided by Spartan Chassis.

9a. The manufacturer's campaign identification number if not identical to the number assigned by NHTSA.

Newmar's identification number will be assigned by NHTSA.

All Documents to be faxed to (202)366-7882 to be followed by mailing.


Spartan Chassis, Inc.

1165 Reynolds Road - Charlotte, MI - 48813

573 DEFECT & NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT

Description:	I-Shaft Assembly Can Disconnect (Recall ZF Lenksysteme)
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Internal Code:	SPEC 05022	Date of Report:	6/15/2005
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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:
Wayne Ridge	Kelli A. Oberlin
Product Improvement Administrator	Compliance Administrator
Customer Service Operations	Product Assurance
(517) 543-6400, ext. 445	(517) 543-6400, ext. 358
Fax: (517) 543-7764	Fax: (517) 543-7729

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.

SPEC 05022



Spartan Chassis, Inc.

1165 Reynolds Road - Charlotte, MI - 48813

Newmar Corporation

Description:	I-Shaft Assembly Can Disconnect (Recall ZF Lenksysteme)
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Internal Code:	SPEC 05022		
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<u>VIN #</u>	<u>SALES #</u>		<u>CUSTOMER</u>
4VZAT1C905C046816	46816	2/5/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C925C046817	46817	2/12/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C945C046818	46818	2/18/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C955C047170	47170	2/17/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C995C048483	48483	6/7/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C945C048830	48830	7/9/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C915C048879	48879	7/19/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C965C049008	49008	7/27/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C995C047995	47995	5/4/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C965C048411	48411	6/7/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C975C048479	48479	6/9/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C945C048567	48567	6/21/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C955C048643	48643	6/24/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C945C048827	48827	7/9/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C925C048874	48874	7/21/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C935C049001	49001	7/28/2004	Newmar

4VZAT1C915C049059	49059	8/9/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C985C049060	49060	8/9/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C925C049099	49099	8/12/2004	Newmar
4VZAT1C975C049180	49180	8/19/2004	Newmar
4VZVU1E974C045401	45401	10/20/2003	Newmar
4VZVU1E954C046708	46708		Spartan