


Spartan Chassis, Inc.

1165 Reynolds Road - Charlotte, MI - 48813

 06V-029
(5 Pages)

573 DEFECT & NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT

Description:	Timoney Ball Joint Failure		
Internal Code:	SPEC 06001	Date of Report:	2/6/2006

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

DEFECT INVESTIGATION
 06V-029
 2/6/06

Corporate contacts for recall information:

Customer Notification and Customer Service:

Wayne Ridge
 Product Improvement Administrator
 Customer Service Operations
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Report prepared by:

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Preparer's Signature:

Kelli A. Oberlin

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:	Gladiator		
Model Years Involved:	2004 - 2006		
Vehicle Type:	Fire truck		
Weight Range:	From GVWR:	42,000	To GVWR: 70,000
Weight Class:	From Class:	8	To Class: 8
Beginning VDM:	2/23/2004		Ending VDM: 1/26/2006
% Potentially Involved:	100%		

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

Gladiator models with Timoney 22 Independent Front Suspension.

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
GA40M-3164	2004	1
GA41H-2142	2006	1
GA41L-2142	2005	1
GA41M-2142	2004	1
GA41M-3164	2004	1
GA42L-2142	2005	1
GA42M-2142	2005	1
GA47H-3164	2006	1
GA47L-2142	2006	1
GA47M-3164	2004	2
TOTAL:		11

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

Approximate Defect Percentage: 100%

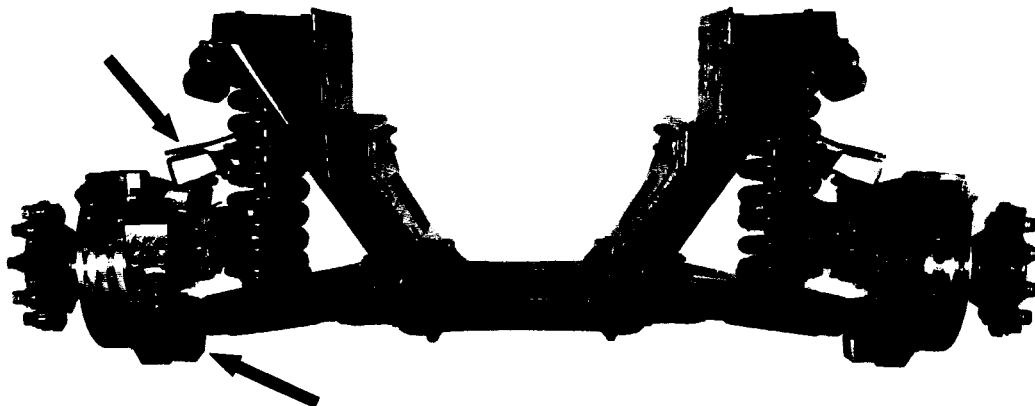
Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

Upon notification from Timoney a query was run using part numbers 0834-DD1-001, 0834-DD1-002, 0862-DD1-001, 0862-DD1-002, 0894-DD1-001, and 0894-DD1-002.

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 kingpin ball pin in the front suspension can fracture at the M35 thread at the top of the ball pin.



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

The cause of the fracture is still being determined by the manufacture of the kingpin ball pin.

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

Loss of steering control.

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

None

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:	Independent Front Suspension
Supplier Part Number:	D90013-040-3500-AU-22 and D90013-040-3500-AU-20
Spartan Part Number:	0834-DD1-00, 0834-DD1-002 and 0894-DD1-001
Supplier Corporate Name:	Timoney Technology Ltd
Address:	Gibbstown Navan Co. Meath Ireland
CEO or Knowledgeable Rep:	Colm Bryme

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.

On 01/17/06 Timoney contacted Spartan to help coordinate a recall on the independent front suspension. There have been no accidents, injuries or fatalities documented in Customer Service.

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

N/A

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.

The upper and lower kingpins will be replaced on all vehicles. The vendor has changed the kingpin ball pin material that will be used for any future production at Spartan utilizing the Timoney independent front suspension.

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

The assembly is identified by serial numbers on a tin tag affixed on the independent front suspension. (first serial number utilizing the new kingpin ball pin material is 027, 029, 030...)

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.

Timoney has corrected the issue within their manufacturing process. Spartan has only one assembly on sight which will be the first one repaired. Any future products supplied by Timoney will be corrected.

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.

All of the vehicle have been located and in the process of being repaired.

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	Pending - All customers have been contacted by phone
Draft Notification letter to purchasers	N/A
Press release (if applicable)	N/A
Recall Service Bulletin (RSB)	Pending - This repair is being done by a Timoney service technician
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.

Spartan Identification SPEC 06001