


Spartan Chassis, Inc.

1165 Reynolds Road - Charlotte, MI - 48813

 06 V-156
 (5 Pages)

573 DEFECT & NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT

Description:	Steering Gear Support Failure		
Internal Code:	SPEC 06011	Date of Report:	5/8/2006

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

Corporate contacts for recall information:

Customer Notification and Customer Service: 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:	MM, K2		
Model Years Involved:	1998		
Vehicle Type:	Motorhome		
Weight Range:	From GVWR:	31,000	To GVWR: 35,000
Weight Class:	From Class:	7	To Class: 8
Beginning VDM:	2/5/1998	Ending VDM:	6/5/1998
% Potentially Involved:	100%		

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

The models included are equipped with the following combination of part numbers

0469-KK1 Support bracket with a 0945-KK1 7.5" Pitman Arm

0886-KK1 support bracket with a 0945-KK1 7.5" Pitman Arm

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
K2	1998	19
MM	1998	235
TOTAL:		254

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:

The recall population was determined by querying for all units with the suspect support bracket and pitman arm combination with a 12K front axle rating.

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 steering gear support bracket has the potential to fail when subject to the repetitive forces of static steering conditions.

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

The cause of failure is attributed to fatigue.

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

The steering system ceases to function.

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

There is 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:	N/A
Spartan Part Number:	N/A
Supplier Corporate Name:	N/A
Address:	N/A
CEO or Knowledgeable Rep:	N/A

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.

VIN	Documented Date	Complaint Description
4VZBN8194WC029173	4/25/2006	Steering gear support bracket broken
4VZBN8293WC029258	2/22/2006	Steering gear support bracket broken
4VZBN8296WC029206	11/18/2005	Steering gear support bracket cracked
4VZBN8291WC029209	7/11/2003	Steering gear support bracket cracked

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.

Replace support bracket part #0469-KK1 and part #0886-KK1 with 1499-KK1-001.

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

The replacement steering support bracket is more robust.

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.

The recall condition was corrected when production ceased using the support bracket/pitman arm combination specific to the IFS 12K rating.

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.

Agenda for notification:

5-18-06- Expect notification to dealers, retailers and purchasers

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	N/A
Draft Notification letter to purchasers	In Process
Press release (if applicable)	N/A
Recall Service Bulletin (RSB)	In Process
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 06011