



U.S. Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

December 14, 2007

BARRY WOLFF
DIRECTOR OF RISK MANAGEMENT
THE BRAUN CORPORATION
631 WEST 11 STREET
WINAMAC IN 46996

NVS-215dgl
07V-546

Subject: REAR AXLE BEAM MOUNTING

Dear MR. WOLFF:

This letter serves to acknowledge The Braun Corporation's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below, for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

BRAUN/SIENNA RAMPVAN/2004-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-546

Mfg's Report Date: November 16, 2007

Components: SUSPENSION:REAR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 4,000

Summary:

ON CERTAIN HANDICAPPED MOBILITY CONVERSION RAMPVANS MANUFACTURED BY INDEPENDENT MOBILITY SYSTEMS AND BUILT ON TOYOTA MINIVAN CHASSIS, THE DRIVER SIDE REAR AXLE BEAM MOUNT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY WELDED TO THE CHASSIS. THIS MAY RESULT IN A SQUEAKING NOISE, WORN TIRES, A ROUGH RIDE, OR DEGRADATION IN VEHICLE CONTROL.

Consequence:

THE MOUNT MAY BECOME PARTIALLY SEPARATED FROM THE CHASSIS. PASSENGERS, PEDESTRIANS, OR OTHER MOTORISTS MAY BE INJURED OR KILLED.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSTALL A REDESIGNED AXLE BEAM MOUNTING STRUCTURE USING ENHANCED WELDING PRACTICES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING DECEMBER 2007. OWNERS MAY CONTACT BRAUN AT 800-488-0359.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it does not meet all the requirements of Part 577. Please change the second paragraph to read: "The Braun Corporation has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2004-2007 Toyota Sienna Rampvan mobility conversions."...

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at Patricia.wallace@dot.gov, Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement