

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE



AUTOCAR SAFETY RECALL A-0804 Rev. 1 NHTSA RECALL 08V-447 March 2009

Dear Autocar Truck Owner:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Autocar, LLC has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in a total of 770 model-year 2007, 2008 and 2009 WXLL-model heavy-duty class 8 vehicles built between 27 April 2007 and 13 January 2009, with serial numbers in the range 205479 through 209176.

- MODELS AFFECTED:** Autocar WXLL 2007, 2008 and 2009
- COMPONENTS AFFECTED:** WXLL frame rail extension
- SAFETY DEFECT:** Cracks may develop mainly in the top flange of the WXLL frame rail extension at the front splay break.
- POTENTIAL RISK:** Over time, the crack might propagate through the entire WXLL frame rail extension and the affected part might fail increasing the risk of a crash.
- PRECAUTIONS YOU CAN TAKE:** Visually inspect the right-side and left-side front end extension on your truck for signs of cracking.
- REPAIR REQUIRED:** At no charge to you regardless of your truck's age or mileage, Autocar will replace the existing WXLL frame rail extensions with redesigned extensions.
- TIME REQUIRED FOR THE REPAIR:** The labor time to repair your truck may take up to 25 hours.
- WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:** Promptly call Autocar's Project Manager for this recall at 765 489-1960 to authorize and arrange for the repairs.
- PRIOR REPAIRS:** You may have previously received a Safety Recall Notice for Recall No. A-0804 (dated September 2008). This is Rev. 1 of that Safety Recall Notice. **Even if you completed the previously-recommended repair of the WXLL frame rail extension cracking (welding of reinforcement straps onto the WXLL frame rail extensions), YOU MUST HAVE THE REVISED REPAIR PROCEDURE COMPLETED AT THIS TIME (total replacement of the existing WXLL frame rail extensions with redesigned extensions).**
- If you did not previously receive a Safety Recall Notice, your truck may or may not have reinforcement straps; regardless, **YOU MUST HAVE THE REVISED REPAIR PROCEDURE COMPLETED AT THIS TIME (total replacement of WXLL frame rail extensions).**

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If you have previously paid for repairs relating to the WXLL frame rail extensions, you may be entitled to recover of the amount you paid for those repairs. Submit a copy of all documentation supporting your claim to Autocar at the address set forth below in the "Assistance" section.

**NOTICE
REGARDING
LEASED VEHICLES:**

If you are a Lessor (as defined below) of a vehicle that is affected by this Notice, you are obligated under federal law to provide a copy of this Notice to the lessee of such vehicle within 10 days of your receipt of this Notice. Further, you must maintain a record, which identifies the lessee(s) to whom you send a copy of this Notice, the date you send the Notice and the VIN of the vehicle that you have leased to the lessee(s).

For purposes of this Notice, the term "Lessor" means a person or entity that is the owner, as reflected on the vehicle's title, of any five or more leased vehicles (as defined in 49 CFR Section 577.4), as of the date of this Notice.

**OWNER RECALL
RESPONSE CARD:**

The enclosed Owner Recall Response Card identifies your truck. Please complete this postage-paid card and return it to Autocar. If you do not own, have sold or have traded the vehicle identified on the card, please indicate that on the postage-paid card and return it to Autocar.

ASSISTANCE:

If you need assistance with this recall, please call Autocar's Project Manager at 765-489-1960, call our toll-free numbers below or write to Autocar at:

Autocar, LLC
Service & Warranty Department
P. O. Box 190
Hagerstown, IN 47346-0190
888-218-3611 (Toll Free)
877-973-3486 (Toll Free)

You may also submit a complaint to:

Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We regret any inconvenience this recall may cause, but we hope you recognize Autocar's concern for your safety and satisfaction with your truck.

Sincerely,
AUTOCAR, LLC

From: David Mihalick
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2009 9:41 AM
To: Ansley, Alexander <NHTSA>
Cc:
Subject: RE: Spartan Recall 08V-567 Inquiry

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red
Alex,

After investigating this inquiry, we did not build on the one chassis that Spartan sold us that was included in this recall. The chassis was a for prototype evaluation purposes. We actually sold the chassis back to Spartan after evaluation.

Since we did not do any work to convert this chassis into a motorhome, we will not be submitting a Defect Report.

Thanks,

David

From:
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2009 11:28 AM
To:
Subject: Spartan Recall 08V-567 Inquiry

David,

Good morning. Do you know if Thor will be supplying a Defect Report for Four Winds' vehicles involved in Spartan recall #08V-567 (attached)?

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Alex Ansley
US DOT- NHTSA
Office of Defects Investigation
Recall Management / W46-412
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590
P. (202) 493-0481
F. (202) 366-7882