



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

May 28, 2009

MR. WES CHESTNUT  
SENIOR COMPLIANCE ANALYST  
SPARTAN CHASSIS, INC.  
1000 REYNOLDS ROAD  
CHARLOTTE, MI 48813

NVS-215kjs  
09V-184

**SUBJECT: QUICK RELEASE VALVES/HALDEX/MERITOR WABCO**

**DEAR MR. CHESTNUT:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Spartan Chassis, Inc.'s (Spartan) 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 Federal laws.

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:**

**Mfg's Report Date:** May 15, 2009

SPARTAN/ADV/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/BEY/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/FUR/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/GLC/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/GLD/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/GLS/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/K2/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/K3/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/MG/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/MM/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/MTR/2008-2010  
SPARTAN/NVS/2008-2010

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 09V-184

**Components:** SERVICE BRAKES, AIR:SUPPLY:QUICK RELEASE VALVE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 484

**Summary:**

SPARTAN IS RECALLING 484 MODEL YEARS 2008-2010 ADV, BEY, FUR, GLC, GLD, K2, K3, MG, MM, MTR, AND NVS FIRE TRUCK, AMBULANCE, AND MOTOR HOME CHASSIS MANUFACTURED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND DECEMBER 16, 2008 EQUIPPED WITH CERTAIN HALDEX QUICK RELEASE VALVES (QRV). THE RUBBER DIAPHRAGM INSIDE THE QRV MAY EXPERIENCE DELAMINATION RESULTING IN SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF AIR PRESSURE LEAKAGE PAST AND/OR THROUGH THE DIAPHRAGM, OR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BUBBLE IN THE DIAPHRAGM WHICH MAY TRAP AIR PRESSURE IN THE VALVE AND NOT ALLOW THE SERVICE BRAKES TO RELEASE.

**Consequence:**

MALFUNCTION OF THE AIR BRAKE SYSTEM COULD RESULT IN A VEHICLE CRASH.

**Remedy:**

EACH VEHICLE MANUFACTURER WILL PROVIDE A REMEDY PLAN AND NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. THE AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE REPAIRED WITHOUT CHARGE TO THE OWNERS. OWNERS MAY CONTACT THEIR VEHICLE MANUFACTURER OR SPARTAN CHASSIS TOLL-FREE AT 1-800-543-4277.

**Notes:**

SPARTAN'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NO. 09005. OWNERS 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).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following:

Please provide a list of the final stage vehicle manufacturers which received the chassis equipped with the subject Haldex QRVs by; name of the company, address, telephone number, and the contact name of a knowledgeable representative. The list should also contain the number of affected chassis sold to each manufacturer. Please also advise us whether Spartan will notify owners or whether the final stage manufacturers will notify owners.

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. Should Spartan decide to provide quarterly reports on behalf of the vehicle manufacturers, the report must be broken down by each manufacturer.

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).

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at [Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Person".

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