



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 9, 2009

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

NVS-215kjs
09V-208

SUBJECT: STEERING ANGLE SENSOR FAILURE/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:

SPARTAN/FUR/2008-2009
SPARTAN/GLD/2008-2009
SPARTAN/MTR/2008-2009

Mfg's Report Date: June 5, 2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-208

Components: STEERING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 57

Summary:

SPARTAN IS RECALLING 57 MODEL YEAR 2008 AND 2009 GLD, FUR, AND MTR FIRE TRUCK CHASSIS MANUFACTURED BETWEEN JANUARY 29, 2008 AND MAY 6, 2009, EQUIPPED WITH MERITOR WABCO STEERING ANGLE SENSORS (SAS). THE SAS CAN DEVELOP INTERNAL FRICTION BETWEEN THE SENSOR GEARS AND THE SENSOR HOUSING AS A RESULT OF

EXTERNAL FORCES EXPERIENCED ON THE VEHICLE INCLUDING VIBRATION. IF DEVELOPED FRICTION IS GREAT ENOUGH, THE DRIVING TAB OF THE SAS CAN SHEAR AS THE DRIVER TURNS THE STEERING WHEEL.

Consequence:

WITH A BROKEN SAS DRIVING TAB, THE ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL (ESC) WILL NOT FUNCTION PROPERLY, WHICH COULD POSSIBLY 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. 09008. 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:

We have received Spartan's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete. 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. 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, 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,

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

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