



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 1, 2009

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

NVS-215kjs
09V-455

SUBJECT: VARIABLE VALVE ACTUATION OIL LINE/CATERPILLAR

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 recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

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/K3/2005-2006

Mfg's Report Date: November 25, 2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-455

Components: ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 14

Summary:

SPARTAN IS RECALLING 14 MODEL YEAR 2005 AND 2006 MOTORHOMES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN NOVEMBER 12, 2004 AND MARCH 1, 2006, EQUIPPED WITH CATERPILLAR C15 ENGINE. THE VARIABLE VALVE ACTUATION OIL LINE MAY RUB AGAINST THE P-CLIPS RETAINING THE OIL LINE, CAUSING AN OIL LEAK.

Consequence:

AN OIL LEAK MAY RESULT IN A FIRE HAZARD.

Remedy:

SPARTAN IS WORKING WITH CATERPILLAR TO REMEDY THESE VEHICLES. PLEASE SEE RECALL 09E-020. CATERPILLAR WILL INSPECT AND REPAIR THE NECESSARY COMPONENTS FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT DECEMBER 11, 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT CATERPILLAR TOLL-FREE AT 1-800-447-4986 OR SPARTAN AT 1-800-543-4277 - OPTION 1.

Notes:

SPARTAN'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER 09025. 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.

We have received Spartan's proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577. 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. It is our understanding that Caterpillar will be providing quarterly reports on behalf of Spartan. However, if the campaign is not performing adequately, we may require that Spartan conduct a follow up notification and provide additional quarterly reports.

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