



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 10, 2010

MR. ROBERT GRIFFIN
CROWLEY FLECK PLLP
P.O. BOX 2529
BILLINGS, MT 59103-2529

NVS-215kjs
10E-043

SUBJECT: AFTERMARKET SEAT COVER

DEAR MR. GRIFFIN:

This letter serves to acknowledge your notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), filed on behalf of your client, Marathon Seat Covers, Inc. (Marathon) of a safety recall campaign which is being conducted pursuant to Federal law for the equipment 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:

Mfg's Report Date: September 2, 2010

MARATHON/SUPERHIDES/9999
CHEVROLET/AVALANCHE/2010
CHEVROLET/SILVERADO/2010
CHEVROLET/SUBURBAN 1500/2010
CHEVROLET/SUBURBAN 2500/2010
CHEVROLET/TAHOE/2010
FORD/ESCAPE/2006-2010
FORD/EXPLORER/2006-2010
GMC/SIERRA/2010
GMC/YUKON/2010
GMC/YUKON XL 1500/2010
GMC/YUKON XL 2500/2010
JEEP/COMPASS FWD/2007-2010
JEEP/PATRIOT FWD/2007-2010
NISSAN/FRONTIER/2009-2010
NISSAN/XTERRA/2009-2010
TOYOTA/FJ CRUISER/2008-2010

NHTSA Campaign Number: 10E-043

Components: EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 294

Summary:

MARATHON IS RECALLING CERTAIN SEAT COVERS, BRAND SUPERHIDES WITH PART NUMBERS 593, 594, 578, 960, 228, 228-09, 267-08, 333, 625, AND 630, SOLD FOR USE AS AFTERMARKET EQUIPMENT FOR VARIOUS PASSENGER VEHICLES. THESE SEAT COVERS ARE MADE OF HEAVIER THREAD AND ARE NOT COMPATIBLE WITH SEATS CONTAINING SIDE AIRBAGS. THE HEAVIER SEAT COVER COULD INTERFERE WITH FULL DEPLOYMENT OF THE AIRBAG IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH.

Consequence:

AN IMPROPERLY DEPLOYED AIRBAG COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.

Remedy:

MARATHON WILL NOTIFY OWNERS OF RECORD AND REPLACE THE SEAT COVER FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING SEPTEMBER 2010. OWNERS MAY CONTACT MARATHON AT 1-800-735-2769.

Notes:

THIS RECALL ONLY PERTAINS TO AFTERMARKET MARATHON SEAT COVERS AND HAS NO RELATION TO ANY ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT INSTALLED ON GENERAL MOTORS, FORD, CHRYSLER, TOYOTA, OR NISSAN VEHICLES. 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 does **not** satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6. The report is missing the required chronology of events that were the basis for your defect decision, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and envelope and they it meet the requirements of 49 CFR 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 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

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 black ink, appearing to read "R. Willard", with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Richard Willard
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement