



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 8, 2010

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

NVS-215kjs
10V-245

SUBJECT: SERVICE BRAKE RELEASE TIMING

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/GLADIATOR/2008-2010
SPARTAN/METROSTAR/2009-2010

NHTSA Campaign Number: 10V-245 **Mfg's Report Date:** June 3, 2010

Components: SERVICE BRAKES, AIR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 66

Summary:

SPARTAN IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2008 THROUGH 2010 GLADIATOR AND METROSTAR INCOMPLETE FIRE APPARATUS CHASSIS CABS MANUFACTURED FROM NOVEMBER 14, 2008 THROUGH MAY 25, 2010, EQUIPPED WITH TANDEM REAR AXLES AND ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL (ESC). THE VEHICLES FAIL TO MEET THE SERVICE BRAKE RELEASE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 121, "AIR BRAKE SYSTEMS." SPECIFICALLY, ADDITIONAL VALVING REQUIRED FOR THE ESC SYSTEM REDUCED THE AIR FLOW AND VOLUME TO THE BRAKE CHAMBERS RESULTING IN SLOWER SERVICE BRAKE RELEASE TIMING.

Consequence:

SERVICE BRAKE RELEASE TIMING THAT DOES MEET THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF FMVSS 121 MAY RESULT IN LESS EFFICIENT BRAKING PERFORMANCE AND WILL PREVENT THE VEHICLE FROM BEING MOVED IN A TIMELY FASHION.

Remedy:

SPARTAN WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE .38 INCH INSIDE DIAMETER BRAKE HOSE TO A .50 INCH INSIDE DIAMETER HOSE FREE OF CHARGE. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED THE AGENCY WITH A NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT SPARTAN AT SPARTAN CHASSIS AT 1-800-543-5008 - OPTION 5.

Notes:

SPARTAN'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS 10012. CUSTOMERS MAY 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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The information in your noncompliance report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

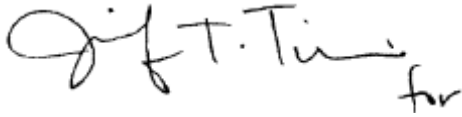
We have received Spartan's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy 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).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

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 the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George H. Person" with a small "for" written below the name.

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