



*Division of Independent Protection Co., Inc.
67819 State Road 15
New Paris, Indiana 46553*

September 14, 2010

Vehicle ID Number: 1GBJG31U841230666 Turtle Top ID Number: 392472

Castle Academy
1354 Park Street
Castle Rock, CO 80109

Dear Vehicle Owner,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

REASON FOR THIS RECALL: Turtle Top has decided that certain model year 2005 through 2009 Spirit Multi-function School Activity Buses manufactured from October 27, 2004 through July 31, 2009, equipped with Freedman Seating Company (Freedman) restraint barriers fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 222, "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection." The barriers do not meet the leg protection performance requirements of FMVSS 222. In the event of a crash, personal injury could occur. The restraining barriers are intended to reduce the number of injuries that may result from the impact of school bus occupants against structures within the vehicle during a crash situation. Tests by Freedman revealed that when the barriers are manufactured to Freedman's specifications with an 18 gage back plate the barriers meet the leg protection zone performance requirements of FMVSS 222. Freedman has determined, however, that certain barriers have a thicker 14 gage back plate; these barriers with a thicker back plate may not meet the leg protection zone performance requirements of FMVSS 222.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO: Affected vehicle owners need to contact Freedman Seating Company at 800-443-4540 and ask for Terry Gogins, Warranty Coordinator, at extension 233 or e-mail Terry at terryg@freedmanseat.com. You may also contact Turtle Top's Customer Service Department at 1-800-296-2105 to obtain a repair kit. Please be prepared to give the service representative your Turtle Top body number or last 8 digits of the vehicle identification number (VIN). You can contact your Turtle Top distributor to schedule the repair or if you prefer, perform the repair yourself. The repair involves removing the restraint barrier cover to expose the structure underneath, installing a foam piece, and replacing the cover to the barrier. The overall repair takes 10 minutes. A Vehicle ID and Recall Work Completion Form is included with this letter. Upon completion of the work, please return this completed form to Turtle Top or turn it into your distributor servicing your vehicle for them to complete it and return it to Turtle Top. A faxed or scanned and e-mailed completed form is acceptable. Fax to: 574-831-4349 or e-mail to: ttsp@turtletop.com. This way we will be assured and have record that your vehicle has had the necessary repairs performed.

WHAT WE WILL DO: The repair kit will be sent to you or to a Turtle Top distributor for you at no cost. The repair kit and instructional information to perform the repair will be provided at no cost to you and if a Turtle Top distributor performs the repair work for you there will be no charge for the work. If your vehicle has

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Fax: 574 831-4349
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already had the remedy performed prior to this recall, Turtle Top will reimburse owners for pre-notification remedies.

We regret any inconvenience which this action may cause you; however, Turtle Top and Freedman Seating Company are concerned about you and your passengers' safety. If Turtle Top or Freedman fails or is unable to remedy this safety non-compliance without charge and within a reasonable timeframe, you may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Vehicle Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has been informed of this recall notice and has assigned safety recall number 10V-400 to this campaign.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Janet L. Kercher-Dudley
Standards Engineer

cc: Turtle Top Distributor for Vehicle Owner

Enclosure: Vehicle ID and Recall Work Completion Form

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