



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

April 21, 2011

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

NVS-215dgl  
11V-240

SUBJECT: INSTRUMENT PANEL/FMVSS 101 & FMVSS 121

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 noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 101, "Controls and Displays" and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 121, "Air Brake Systems," in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal law.

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/FURION/2010-2011  
SPARTAN/GLADIATOR/2010-2011  
SPARTAN/METROSTAR/2010-2011

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 11V-240

**Mfg's Report Date:** April 14, 2011

**Components:** ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: INSTRUMENT PANEL

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 110

**Summary:**

SPARTAN IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2010-2011 FURION, GLADIATOR, AND METROSTAR FIRE APPARATUS CHASSIS/CAB PRODUCED FROM APRIL 8, 2010, THROUGH MARCH 24, 2011. CERTAIN TELL TALES DOES NOT ILLUMINATE WHEN THEY ARE INTENDED (HIGH BEAM LAMP, TURN SIGNALS), OR FLICKER. IN ADDITION, THE ABS LAMP MAY NOT ILLUMINATE WHEN THE SYSTEM IS AFFECTED BY A FAULT. THEREFORE THESE VEHICLES FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 101, "CONTROLS AND DISPLAYS" AND FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 121, "AIR BRAKE SYSTEMS."

**Consequence:**

THE TELL TALE FOR THE HIGH BEAM MAY NOT ILLUMINATE WHEN THE HIGH BEAM HEAD LIGHTS ARE ACTIVATED RESULTING IN A POTENTIAL DISTRACTION TO ONCOMING TRAFFIC. ALSO, THE ABS LAMP MAY NOT ILLUMINATE WHEN A MALFUNCTION OCCURS THEREFORE NOT ALERTING THE DRIVER. BOTH OF THESE CONSEQUENCES COULD INCREASE THE RISK OF CRASH.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL REPROGRAM THE CONTROL PANEL FOR THE TELL TALES WITH LOGIC THAT WILL ENSURE THE TELLS WILL WORK AS DESIGNED WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED THE AGENCY WITH A NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT SPARTAN AT 1-800-543-5008 - OPTION 5.

**Notes:**

SPARTAN'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS 11008. 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.

We have received your 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).

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 one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, or by email at [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement