



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 23, 2013

Mr. Wesley Chestnut
Lead, Compliance
Spartan Motors, Inc.
1541 Reynolds Road
Charlotte, MI 48813

NVS-215JN
11V-412

Subject: Air Brake System Guages/FMVSS 121

Dear Mr. Chestnut:

This letter serves to acknowledge Spartan Motors, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) 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/K2/2011-2012
SPARTAN/K3/2011-2012
SPARTAN/MM/2011-2012
SPARTAN/SU/2011

Mfr's Report Date: July 29, 2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-412

Components:

SERVICE BRAKES, AIR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 313

Problem Description:

Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. (Spartan Chassis) is recalling certain 2011 SU and 2011 through 2012 model year MM, K2, and K3 recreational vehicle chassis manufactured from January 28, 2011, through June 28, 2011, equipped with air gauges supplied by Ametek. An incorrect value may have been used in the formula for calculating the sweep angle of the dial. This may have resulted in the accuracy of the gauge varying as much as eleven percent from the cutout pressure as opposed to the maximum allowable of +/- seven percent. Consequently, these chassis fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 121, "Air Brake Systems."

Consequence:

In a condition where constant braking may be necessary, the air systems may deplete sooner than expected. This could cause the application of the spring brake without warning and may result in a vehicle crash.

Remedy:

Spartan Chassis will notify owners and replace the affected guages with compliant ones, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin by early October 2013. Owners may contact Spartan at 1-800-543-4277 - Option 1. Spartan's campaign number is 11018.



Notes:

In July 2011, Spartan petitioned NHTSA that the noncompliance was inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. In August 2013, NHTSA denied the petition and instructed Spartan to conduct a recall campaign. Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to 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 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.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

On August 20, 2013, NHTSA announced new changes to the requirements governing safety recalls. Some of these requirements take effect as early as October 2013. Please ensure your company will be in compliance with each requirement on, or before, its respective effective date. For a summary of the requirements and their effective dates please click on the "New!" link at <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Manufacturers>.

Your contact for this recall will be Joshua Neff who may be reached by phone at 202-366-0698, or by email at joshua.neff@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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