



**Utilimaster Inc.**  
65906 State Road 19,  
P.O. Box 585  
Wakarusa, IN 46573

**DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT - DOMESTIC**

<b>Description:</b>	Overheating, smoke and on rare occasions, fire, in battery separators models 1314 and 1315.
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<b>Internal Code:</b>		<b>Date of Report:</b>	8/26/2011
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**Submitted to:** Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Attn: Mrs. Kelly Schuler, Office of Defects Investigation  
Fax: (202) 366-7882  
Email: RMD.ODI@dot.gov

**Manufacturer Identification:** Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.  
1000 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte, MI 48813

Telephone: (517) 543-6400

**Corporate contact for recall information:**

Wesley D. Chestnut  
Senior Compliance Analyst  
Product Assurance  
(517) 543-6400, ext. 3275  
Fax: (517) 543-7729  
Email: wdchestn@spartanmotors.com

Preparer's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**I. IDENTIFY THE US BOUND VEHICLE MODELS INVOLVED IN THE RECALL**

<b>Make:</b>	Utilimaster			
<b>Model(s):</b>	Truck Body			
<b>Model Years Involved:</b>	2008 - 2011			
<b>Vehicle Type:</b>	Delivery Truck			
<b>Weight Range:</b>	From GVWR:	11500lbs.	To GVWR:	23500lbs.
<b>Weight Class:</b>	From Class:	Class 3	To Class:	Class 6
<b>Beginning VDM:</b>	1/25/2008		<b>Ending VDM:</b>	4/19/2011
<b>% Potentially Involved:</b>	0.4%			

**Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:**  
 Vehicles affected by this recall are equipped with battery separators manufactured by Sure Power . (Part Number 16511893). Other vehicles manufactured by Utilimaster do not contain this product.

**II. IDENTIFY THE RECALL POPULATION**

**Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or non-compliance**

MODEL	MODEL YEAR	No. POTENTIALLY INVOLVED
Navistar	2008	91
Hino	2008	39
Ford	2008	12
GM	2008	7
Ford	2009	10
Ford	2010	6
Workhorse	2011	9
<b>TOTAL:</b>		174

**Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance.**

Approximate Defect Percentage: 0.4%

**Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:**  
 The recall population was determined by a computer sort of the Part number. The beginning and final dates were determined from the supplier recall information and discussions with Cooper Bussman.

**III. DESCRIBE THE DEFECT OR NONCOMPLIANCE**

**Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.**

Suspect vehicles, in their as built configuration, had the Sure Power battery separator installed on the inboard side of the curb side rail. Certain model (1314 and 1315) battery separators may overheat, smoke, or on rare occasions develop a fire.

**Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.**

Internal circuit board capacitor failure.

**Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.**

Could lead to overheating, smoke and, on rare occasions, fire.

**Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.**

Overheating or smoke of battery separator.

**If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address:**

Generic Component Name:	
Supplier Part Number:	16511893 and 16512967
Utilimaster Part Number:	16511893 and 16512967
Supplier Corporate Name:	Cooper Bussman
Address:	114 Old State Road Ellisville, MO 63021
CEO or Knowledgeable Rep:	Joshua Bennett

**IV. PROVIDE THE CHRONOLOGY IN DETERMINING THE DEFECT/NONCOMPLIANCE**

**If defect, furnish a chronological summary with dates of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. Include number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.**

14JUL11 Received notification of voluntary recall from Sure Power.

18JUL11 Requested data query to determine if suspect product was in inventory.

19JUL11 Requested data query to determine if suspect product was installed on vehicles and determined if field activity was necessary.

28JUL11 Discussed Sure Power battery separator recall with Cooper Bussman representative.

8AUG11 Utilmaster determines the need to recall 172 vehicles.

15AUG11 Utilmaster market line lead agrees that a defect relating to motor vehicles safety exists in the affected vehicles.

22AUG11 Began completing proper documentation to submit recall.

26AUG11 Recall submitted to ODI

**V. IDENTIFY THE REMEDY**

**Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.**

1. Remedy for the defect - disable the Sure Power battery separator until parts are ready for shipment from supplier. Utilmaster will notify owners when remedy is available.

2. The Remedy is to replace the Sure Power battery separator per the Cooper Bussman recall notice.

**Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.**

The distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component vs. the recalled component is the remedy component is a new (replaced) Shure Power battery separator. New will be distinguished by different part number and new label.

**Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.**

The product was not in use at the time of recall. All inventory has been contained.

**VI. IDENTIFY THE RECALL SCHEDULE**

**Furnish a schedule or agenda, with specific dates, for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please identify any foreseeable problems with implementing this recall.**

A letter will be sent to all customers by September 1, 2011.

**VII. FURNISH RECALL COMMUNICATIONS**

**Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification.**

<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DATE AND MANNER SUBMITTED</b>
Notification letter to other manufacturers	N/A
Draft Notification letter to purchasers	1-Sep-11
Press release (if applicable)	N/A
Recall Service Bulletin (RSB)	1-Sep-11
Notification Envelope	N/A

**The manufacturer's campaign identification number if not identical to the number assigned by**