

**Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.**

1000 Reynolds Road - Charlotte, MI - 48813

DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT - DOMESTIC

Description:	ESC modules that may cause inadvertent activation of the electronic stability control system.
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Internal Code:	11026	Date of Report:	10/11/2011
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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:

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Preparer's Signature: _____

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

Make:	Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.			
Model(s):	Gladiator®, Metro Star®, Furion, Force™, and Rescue Transport			
Model Years Involved:	2008 - 2012			
Vehicle Type:	Incomplete Emergency Rescue Transport Chassis/Cab			
Weight Range:	From GVWR:	26000 lbs	To GVWR:	86000 lbs
Weight Class:	From Class:	6	To Class:	8
Beginning VDM:	4/12/2007		Ending VDM:	9/30/2011
% Potentially Involved:	100%			

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:
 The ESC module may cause the ESC system to activate unnecessarily when the vehicle is driven in a particular manner on certain unique road conditions.

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
Gladiator	2007	1
Diamond	2008	1
Furion	2008	1
Gladiator	2008	67
Metrostar	2008	17
Furion	2009	6
Gladiator	2009	186
Metrostar	2009	89
Furion R/T	2010	2
Gladiator	2010	132
Metrostar	2010	58
Furion	2011	4
Gladiator	2011	142
Metrostar	2011	74
Gladiator	2012	7
Metrostar	2012	10
Spartan Force	2012	2
TOTAL:		799

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

Approximate Defect Percentage: 100%

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 utilizing the part number of the electronic control unit and

querying bills of materials that contained the required part. Other ERC vehicles are not equipped with the ESC system.

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.

Under certain unique road and driving conditions involving tight, successive, highly banked curves in opposite directions, vehicle body roll and road inclination characteristics may adversely affect the slip angle calculation by the ESC Module. This might cause the ESC to perceive an oversteering situation and therefore apply the front axle outer wheel service brake until the vehicle is perceived to be stable by the ESC. This unnecessary brake intervention may pull the vehicle out of the curve, requiring the driver to counter steer to keep the vehicle on its intended path.

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

The ESC Module contains software utilized to compute the vehicle's slip angle. This module is usually mounted near the rear of the cab of a tractor or straight truck or on a cross member located near the center of a motorcoach.

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

ESC module could produce an unnecessary ESC actuation. If driver is slow to react during the unnecessary ESC intervention, the vehicle may deviate from its intended path.

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

This may occur without warning.

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:	Electronic Stability Control Module
Supplier Part Number:	446 065 020 0, 446 065 027 0, 400 850 179 0, 400 850 185 0, and 400 850 195 0
Spartan Part Number:	0374-GG3-014 through -016, 0404-GG3-001 through -061, 0386-GG3-001 through -030
Supplier Corporate Name:	Meritor WABCO Vehicle Control Systems
Address:	2135 West Maple Road Troy, MI 49084-7121
CEO or Knowledgeable Rep:	Patrick Kealy

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.

06OCT11 - Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. was notified by Meritor Wabco of a safety defect involving ESC modules.

07OCT11 - Spartan determines the potential number of vehicles affected. Additionally, all modules not yet installed in the manufacturing process were quarantined to return to Meritor Wabco. Vehicles equipped with the suspect modules were placed on "stop ship".

11OCT11 - Spartan files recall report with NHTSA.

If noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data in chronological order with dates on which the noncompliance was determined.

N/A

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.

The corrective action is to replace the currently installed ESC Module with a new version containing updated software capable of resolving the described issue.

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

The new modules will be marked with a color predetermined by Meritor Wabco.

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.

Meritor Wabco updated the ESC module with new software. Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. quarantined all suspect ESC Modules and returned them to Meritor Wabco.

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.

See Below

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.

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DATE AND MANNER SUBMITTED
Notification letter to other manufacturers	30-Nov-11
Draft Notification letter to purchasers	30-Nov-11
Press release (if applicable)	N/A
Recall Service Bulletin (RSB)	30-Nov-11
Notification Envelope	Pre-approved

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

11026