



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

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By Recall Management Division at 7:38 am, Jan 03, 2012

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(6 pages)

December 30, 2011

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590
Attn: Kelly Schuler or Delia Lopez

RE: Notice of Non-Compliance and Intent to Petition for Exemption

Dear Mrs. Schuler or Mrs. Lopez,

This notice is being sent to you in accordance 49CFR573 – Defect and Non-Compliance Responsibility and Reports. Additionally, Utilimaster intends to submit a petition for exemption pursuant to 49CFR556 – Exemption for Inconsequential Defect or Non-Compliance.

Please contact my office directly if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

Wesley D. Chestnut
Compliance and Validation
Spartan Motors, Inc.
Office: 517.543.6400 ext. 3275
Cell: 517.231.0712
Fax: 517.543.7729
Email: wdchestn@spartanmotors.com

**Utilimaster Corporation**

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

DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT - DOMESTIC

Description:	Certain work truck vehicles, equipped with sliding doors, have been determined to be non-compliant to FMVSS 206 - Door Locks and Retention Components
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Internal Code:	N/A	Date of Report:	12/30/2011
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Submitted to: Associate Administrator for Enforcement
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: Utilimaster Corporation
65906 State Road 19
P.O. Box 585
Wakarusa, IN 46573

Corporate contact for recall information:

Wesley D. Chestnut
Compliance and Validation
Spartan Motors, Inc.
(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

Make:		Utilimaster			
Model(s):		Aeromaster and Reach			
Model Years Involved:		2009 thru 2011			
Vehicle Type:		Work Truck			
Weight Range:	From GVWR:	9,000	To GVWR:	24800	
Weight Class:	From Class:	H	To Class:	6	
Beginning VDM:		9/1/2009		Ending VDM:	12/22/2011
% Potentially Involved:		100%			

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Vehicles covered in this notification are not equipped with a door closure warning system or a primary door latch system. Vehicles excluded from the notification are equipped with either the door closure warning system or primary door latch system.

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
Aeromaster	2009	1300
Aeromaster	2010	4241
Aeromaster	2011	4319
Reach	2011	1
TOTAL:		9861

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

Approximate Defect Percentage: 100.0%

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:

A review of the bills of material was performed to determine which vehicles are equipped with a single door latch on the sliding doors without a primary door latch system or door closure warning 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.

Certain work trucks do not comply with FMVSS 206, S4.2.1, which requires each sliding door system to be equipped with either a primary door latch system or a door latch system with a fully latched position and a door closure warning system.

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

The non-compliance is a result of misinterpretation of the application FMVSS 206 following the Agency's 2007 amendment to the standard.

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

If either sliding door were to become partially open, it would be immediately apparent to the driver. Accordingly, for this and other reasons, Utilimaster intends to submit a Petition for Determination of Inconsequential Noncompliance pursuant to 49 CFR Part 556 within the 30-day period set forth therein.

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

See above.

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:	N/A
Supplier Part Number:	N/A
Utilimaster Part Number:	N/A
Supplier Corporate Name:	N/A
Address:	N/A
CEO or Knowledgeable Rep:	

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.

16DEC11 - On or near this date, Compliance was asked to review the applicability section of F/CMVSS 206 to determine if it applied to trucks with a GVWR of 10000 lbs or greater.

20DEC11 - Reviews F/CMVSS 206 and advises Utilimaster that both standards apply to trucks regardless of weight rating.

22DEC11 - Utilimaster determines a non-compliance exists in certain work trucks. A "stop ship" was placed on all affected product on Utilimaster premises until such vehicles could be brought into compliance.

30DEC11 - Compliance notifies NHTSA of the non-compliance.

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.

Pursuant to 49CFR556 - Exemption for Inconsequential Defect or Non-Compliance, Utilimaster intends to seek an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of the Safety Act.

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

Pending NHTSA response on petition for exemption

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.

A stop-ship has been implemented as Utilimaster develops a compliant solution that will be incorporated into the vehicle design to ensure prospective compliance with FMVSS 206, S4.2.1.

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 recall schedule is pending the NHTSA's response on the petition for exemption.

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	Pending
Draft Notification letter to purchasers	Pending
Press release (if applicable)	Pending
Recall Service Bulletin (RSB)	Pending
Notification Envelope	Pending

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

N/A