



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 15, 2012

Ms. KANUPRIYA ARORA  
AUTOCAR, LLC  
551 S. WASHINGTON STREET P.O. BOX 190  
HAGERSTOWN, IN 47346

NVS-215ET  
12V-394

**Subject:** Seat Belt Retractor/FMVSS 208

Dear Ms. ARORA:

This letter serves to acknowledge AUTOCAR, LLC'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:**  
AUTOCAR/XPETITOR /2008-2012

**Mfr's Report Date:** August 10, 2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-394

**Components:**  
SEAT BELTS:FRONT:RETRACTOR

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 681

**Problem Description:**

Autocar is recalling certain model year 2008-2012 Xpetitor heavy-duty class 8 vehicles, manufactured from December 17, 2007, through July 10, 2012 and equipped with a right-hand (passenger-side) Bostrom air-ride seat. The seatbelt and tether intermediate connection point (ICP) located on the seat bracket may interfere with the seatbelt retractor mechanism as the seat is pneumatically adjusted for height. Over time, the interference may cause the retractor mechanism cover to crack, allowing the retractor spring to become loose and inoperable. Thus, these vehicles fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208, "Occupant Crash Protection."

**Consequence:**

In the event of a crash, if the seat belt retractor malfunctions, the passenger may not be properly restrained, increasing the risk of personal injury or death.

**Remedy:**

Autocar will notify owners and provide instructions for scheduling the vehicle repair, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin on September 5, 2012. Owners may contact Autocar at 1-765-489-5499.

**Notes:**

Autocar's recall number is A-1202. 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>.

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.

Per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier name, contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the seat assembly.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers.

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 Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at edison.thompson@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

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