

**Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.**

1000 Reynolds Road - Charlotte, MI - 48813

**DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT - DOMESTIC**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Description:</b> | Potential Noncompliance to FMVSS 121 Park Brake and Hill Hold Requirements |
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|                       |       |
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| <b>Internal Code:</b> | 12005 |
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|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Date of Report:</b> | 3/22/2012 |
|------------------------|-----------|

**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.  
1541 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte, MI 48813

Telephone: (517) 543-6400

**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:



**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.**

The identified vehicles may not meet the park brake and draw bar requirements of section S5.6 of FMVSS 121 - Air Brake Systems.

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

Pending

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

Under certain conditions the park brake may not hold the vehicle in place.

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

If the vehicle moves a crash or property damage 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:   | Brake Chamber                                 |
| Supplier Part Number:     | 3030TLH2                                      |
| Spartan Part Number:      | 0574-MM1-001                                  |
| Supplier Corporate Name:  | TSE Brakes, Inc.                              |
| Address:                  | 2310 Industrial Drive SW<br>Cullman, AL 35055 |
| 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.**

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

29NOV11 - During chassis validation, the suspect brake chambers were identified to potentially have lower output force than designed.

01DEC11 - Suspect brake chambers were sent to TSE for analysis.

11JAN12 - TSE determines the spring output force was at the minimum range of design thresholds.

12JAN12 - Engineering evaluations begin to determine if lower than designed output forces from the suspect brake chambers would be sufficient to hold vehicles of the various weight rating ranges in which the chamber is used.

02MAR12 - Engineers complete an initial review of previous test results and begin conducting required output force calculations in comparison to the actual measurements taken from the defective brake chambers.

15MAR12 - Engineering identifies a discrepancy in actual test results versus the measurements taken on the chambers.

20MAR12 - Engineering completes the evaluation and determine vehicles in the identified weight rating ranges may be at risk at not meeting the park brake and drawbar requirements of FMVSS 121 if the chassis was equipped with the suspect, defective brake cans.

22MAR12 - Compliance notifies the NTHSA of the noncompliance.

**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.**

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

Components that are not a part of the recall are marked with a date code. Suspect chambers are within a certain date code when suspect springs were used.

**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.**

Inspection criteria at TSE was modified to detect brake chambers that may be providing an output force that is on the low end of the design requirements.

**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.**

Pending

**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 | Pending                          |
| Draft Notification letter to purchasers    | Pending                          |
| Press release (if applicable)              | N/A                              |
| Recall Service Bulletin (RSB)              | Pending                          |
| Notification Envelope                      | Pre-Approval                     |

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

12-005