



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 29, 2013

Mr. Wesley Chestnut
Lead, Compliance
Spartan Motors, Inc.
1541 Reynolds Road
Charlotte, MI 48813

NVS-215KS
13V-453

Subject: Front Sway Bar may Detach/Loss of Brakes

Dear Mr. Chestnut:

This letter serves to acknowledge Spartan Motors, Inc.'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:

SPARTAN MOTORS/TRANSIT BUS CHASSIS CAB/2011-2013

Mfr's Report Date: September 16, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-453

Components:

SERVICE BRAKES, HYDRAULIC:FOUNDATION COMPONENTS:HOSES, LINES/PIPING, AND FITTINGS
SUSPENSION:FRONT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 75

Problem Description:

Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. (Spartan Chassis) is recalling certain model year 2011-2013 Transit Bus Chassis Cab buses manufactured February 17, 2011, through August 8, 2013; and equipped with a front sway bar on the independent front suspension and hydraulic brakes. In the affected vehicles, the fasteners attaching the sway bar to the frame may come loose.

Consequence:

If the sway bar detaches, it may damage the hydraulic brake lines resulting in reduced braking power. As such, the vehicle would require a longer distance to stop, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Spartan Chassis will notify owners, and dealers will install new fasteners with appropriate torque requirements, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in early November 2013. Owners may contact Spartan Chassis at 1-517-543-6400. Spartan Chassis' number for this campaign is 13018.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



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. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

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.

On August 20, 2013, NHTSA announced new changes to the requirements governing safety recalls. Some of these requirements have already taken effect. Please ensure your company will be in compliance with each requirement on, or before, its respective effective date. For a summary of the requirements and their effective dates please click on the "New!" link at <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Manufacturers>.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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