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Recall M-1208: Seat Belt Assembly

13V-006
(2 pages) Amended

6 March 2013

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Report Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6
Autocar, LLC Recall No. M-1208

The following information is in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a defect relating to motor vehicle safety.

573.6(c)(1): The manufacturer's name

Autocar Industries, LLC ("Autocar").

573.6(c)(2): Identification of the vehicles including a description of the manufacturer's basis for its determination of the recall population

Autocar has identified a defect in 80 2012 model-year Xpert model medium-duty class 7 vehicles built by Autocar between 11 July 2011 and 23 January 2013, with serial numbers in the range 213289 through 215684. A noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 210, "Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages" may exist on the affected vehicles.

573.6(c)(3): The total number of vehicles or items of equipment potentially containing the defect

80 vehicles are potentially affected.

573.6(c)(4): The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance

100% of the 80 vehicles are affected.

573.6(c)(5): A description of the defect or noncompliance, including both a brief summary and a detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of the nature and physical location (if applicable) of the defect or noncompliance

Autocar has determined that seat belt anchorages on the affected vehicles are potentially not in compliance with requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 210, "Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages". Pull testing showed that the seat belt assembly fails to sustain the 3000 pound forces for the specified length of time.

573.6(c)(6) and (7): A chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety

11 DEC 2012 Autocar discovered the potential for noncompliance during testing of the seat belt assembly anchorages of a new seat configuration currently in development.

ACF 00003 Rev. 001



20 DEC 2012 Autocar performed the test on a production vehicle to verify compliance. The anchorages were found to be noncompliant.

02 JAN 2013 Autocar decided to initiate a recall for vehicles in the field.

573.6(c)(8)(i): A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance
Autocar will voluntarily initiate an owner notification and recall of all affected vehicles. Autocar will distribute to owners of affected vehicles an Owner Notification Letter which will describe the defect and provide instructions for scheduling repair of the vehicle, at no cost to the vehicle's owner.

573.6(c)(8)(ii): The estimated date(s) on which it will begin sending notifications to owners, and to dealers and distributors

02 JAN 2013 Autocar decided to initiate a recall.

09 JAN 2013 573.6 letter to be sent to NHTSA.

28 FEB 2013 Autocar was able to identify a design change which is the root cause for this defect. Any vehicle built after this change could be potentially affected; hence the estimated population of trucks with defect was expanded.

6 MAR 2013 Revised 573.6 letter to be sent to NHTSA.

6 MAR 2013 Owner notification letter to be sent to NHTSA for approval.

08 MAR 2013 Owner notification letter and recall response card to be sent to vehicle owners.

573.6(c)(9):
Not Applicable.

573.6(c)(11): The manufacturer's campaign number, if not identical to the identification number assigned by NHTSA
Autocar's campaign number assigned to this recall is M-1208.

Very truly yours

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