



**SPARTAN MOTORS, INC.**

1541 Reynolds Road Charlotte, MI 48813 USA

[www.spartanmotors.com](http://www.spartanmotors.com)

p 517.543.6400

f 517.543.5403

**RECEIVED**

By Recall Management division at 11:20 am, Dec 18, 2013

December 12 2013

Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Recall Management Division  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. - Defect Information Report

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations Spartan Motors, Inc, on behalf of Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. (Spartan Chassis) hereby reports a defect relating to motor vehicle safety. Spartan Chassis decided a defect exists with certain emergency response chassis cabs equipped with an independent front suspension supplied by Ridewell.

Please contact me with any questions as it relates to this matter.

Best Regards,

Wesley D. Chestnut  
Lead, Compliance



Spartan Motors, Inc.  
1541 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte, MI 48813

P: 517.543.6400 ext. 3275

M: 517.231.0712

E: [Wes.Chestnut@spartanmotors.com](mailto:Wes.Chestnut@spartanmotors.com)

W: [www.spartanmotors.com](http://www.spartanmotors.com)



**Defect Information Report  
13028**

**573.6(c)(1):** Spartan Motor Chassis, Inc.  
1541 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte, MI 48813

**573.6(c)(2):** Emergency response chassis cabs affected by this recall are equipped with independent front suspension supplied by Ridewell Corporation. Other vehicles are not.

Ridewell Corporation  
PO Box 4586  
Springfield, MO 65808

<b>Make</b>	Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.
<b>Models</b>	Advantage, Diamond, Gladiator, and MetroStar
<b>Model Years</b>	2006 through 2010
<b>Vehicle Type</b>	Emergency Response Chassis Cab
<b>Weight Range (GVWR)</b>	47,000 lbs through 68,000 lbs
<b>VDM Range</b>	12/22/2005 through 10/13/2010

Table 1

**573.6(c)(3)** The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect is shown in **Table 2**.

<b>Model</b>	<b>Model Year</b>	<b>Number Involved</b>
Diamond	2006	1
Gladiator	2006	2
Advantage	2007	1
Diamond	2007	1
Gladiator	2007	1
Gladiator	2008	14
Gladiator	2009	11
MetroStar	2009	1
Gladiator	2010	4
MetroStar	2010	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>37</b>

Table 2



- 573.6(c)(4)** The percentage of vehicles produced between the dates of manufacturing shown in **Table 2** that contain the defect is unknown.
- 573.6(c)(5)** Critical welds on the IFS cradles may crack, without warning. A complete separation of the bell crank support may occur. A complete separation of the certain support bracket(s) may cause steering impairment which could result in a vehicle crash.
- 573.6(c)(6)** **Pending**
- 573.6(c)(8)** An interim notification advising of a required inspection will be sent to affected customers in December 2013.

Cracked welds will be repaired and reinforcement brackets will be applied to the affected IFS cradles by Ridewell. A subsequent notification describing the remedy will begin in January 2014.