



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 20, 2014

Mr. Donald Chomic
Director, Product Safety
Pierce Manufacturing
2600 American Drive
Appleton, WI 54912

NVS-215KS
14V-243

Subject: Seat Belt may be Difficult to Unlatch/FMVSS 209

Dear Mr. Chomic:

This letter serves to acknowledge Pierce Manufacturing'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:

PIERCE/ARROW XT/2013
PIERCE/DASH CF/2013
PIERCE/IMPEL/2013
PIERCE/VELOCITY/2013

Mfr's Report Date: May 8, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-243

Components:

SEAT BELTS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 150

Problem Description:

Pierce Manufacturing (Pierce) is recalling certain model year 2013 Arrow XT, Dash CF, Impel, and Velocity vehicles manufactured October 2013 through January 2014, and equipped with IMMI-brand L9 seat belt buckles. When the button is pressed to release the seat belt, the latch plate can become partially engaged with the buckle, making the seat belt difficult to unlatch. Thus, these vehicles fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 209, "Seat Belt Assemblies."

Consequence:

If the latch plate remains partially engaged after the button is pressed, egress from the vehicle could be hindered which would increase the risk of injury in the event of an emergency.

Remedy:

Pierce will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and replace the seat belt buckle, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in June 2014. Owners may contact Pierce at 1-888-974-3723. Pierce's number for this campaign is 74B246.

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.



We have received Pierce's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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 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 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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