



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 1, 2014

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

NVS-215KS
14V-623

Subject: Transmission Fluid And Engine Coolant May Mix

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/ADVANTAGE/2006-2013
SPARTAN/DIAMOND/2006-2013
SPARTAN/GLADIATOR/2006-2013
SPARTAN/METROSTAR/2006-2013

Mfr's Report Date: October 3, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-623

Components:

POWER TRAIN:AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION:COOLING UNIT AND LINES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 389

Problem Description:

Spartan Motors, Inc. (Spartan) is recalling certain model year 2006-2013 Advantage, Diamond, Gladiator, and MetroStar emergency vehicles manufactured November 29, 2005, to June 19, 2013. In the affected vehicles, the transmission fluid cooler may fail, allowing the engine coolant to mix with the transmission fluid.

Consequence:

If the engine coolant mixes with the transmission fluid, the transmission may not shift properly, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Spartan will notify owners and dealers will install a new transmission fluid cooler, free of charge. Parts are not currently available. Owners will be mailed an interim notification in December 2014 and will also be mailed a second letter when parts are available. Owners may contact Spartan customer service at 1-517-543-6400. Spartan's number for this recall is 14017.

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

If this issue is a result of a defective transmission fluid cooler, per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier name, contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the transmission fluid cooler.

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 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.

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