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14V-022
(3 pages)



SPARTAN MOTORS, INC.

1541 Reynolds Road Charlotte, MI 48813 USA

www.spartanmotors.com

p 517.543.6400

f 517.543.5403

January 28, 2014

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 in certain emergency response chassis cabs. Spartan Chassis has decided a defect involving the engine cooling fan may exist in approximately 444 emergency response chassis cabs.

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
W: www.spartanmotors.com

**Defect Information Report****14001**

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

573.6(c)(2): Emergency response chassis cabs affected by this recall are equipped with an engine cooling fan and Cummins ISM engine. Spartan Chassis continues to evaluate other applications in which the same fan, or similar fan design, is used.

Make	Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.
Models	Gladiator
Model Years	2008 through 2011
Vehicle Type	Emergency Response Chassis Cabs
Weight Range (GVWR)	42,000 lbs – 86,000 lbs
VDM Range	10/10/2007 through 5/11/2011

Table 1

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

Model	Model Year	Number Involved
Gladiator	2008	156
Gladiator	2009	189
Gladiator	2010	66
Gladiator	2011	33
Total		444

Table 2

573.6(c)(4) The percentage of vehicles, shown in **Table 2**, that contain the defect is unknown.

573.6(c)(5) The engine cooling fan is subject to vibration characteristics that exceed the material strength of the engine cooling fan. This could result the engine cooling fan coming apart without warning. If this should happen, and a person is near the vicinity of the engine cooling fan, personal injury could occur.



573.6(c)(6) **August 2013** – Spartan Chassis identified customer complaints/warranty claims associated with engine cooling fans failing on certain emergency response chassis cabs and opened an internal investigation for those claims.

September 2013 – Test plan is determined based on potential causes of the engine cooling fan failures. However, a vehicle matching the suspect configuration had to be located and prepped for evaluation.

November 2013 – Testing of an identified vehicle was completed.

December 2013 – A test report is issued explaining the condition in which the engine cooling fan is subjected to resulting in failures of the fan. A potential remedy is identified and evaluations begin to determine if the new engine cooling fan is suitable for the application.

January 13 2014 – A replacement fan is confirmed to be suitable for the application.

January 21, 2014 – Spartan Chassis determines a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists in the affected emergency response chassis cabs.

573.6(c)(8) Spartan Chassis will replace engine cooling fans with a fan that can withstand the vibration characteristics associated with the fan mounting. This will be done at no charge.

Customer notification for the recall is expected to begin before mid-February.