

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**16V-281**

Manufacturer Name : Turtle Top
Submission Date : MAY 05, 2016
NHTSA Recall No. : 16V-281
Manufacturer Recall No. : 16E-037

**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Turtle Top
 Address : 67819 State Road 15
 New Paris IN 46553
 Company phone : 574-831-4340

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 6
 Estimated percentage with defect : 100

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2016-2016 Turtle Top Odyssey
 Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES
 Body Style : OTHER
 Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Freedman Seating performed FMVSS 222 forward performance test on Family and Family 3pta Seats containing the subject nonconforming hex head cap screws. The tests were noncompliant as the seat studs (3/8" – 24 x 1" hex head cap screw, grade 8, part #454922) fractured during the tests causing the seat to separate from the baseframe

Production Dates : DEC 17, 2015 - MAR 29, 2016

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : 1GB3GSCG7G1127883

End : 1GB3GCSGXG1144192

Not sequential VINs

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Freedman Seating performed FMVSS 222 forward performance test on Family and Family 3pta Seats containing the subject nonconforming hex head cap screws. The tests were noncompliant as the seat studs (3/8" – 24 x 1" hex head cap screw, grade 8, part #454922) fractured during the tests causing the seat to separate from the baseframe

FMVSS 1 : 222 - School bus passenger seating and crash protection

FMVSS 2 : 213 - Child restraint systems

Description of the Safety Risk : Seat may separate from baseframe during a vehicle crash.

Description of the Cause : The hex head cap screws were improperly manufactured by Freedman's vendor, resulting in a material flaw that can reduce the strength of the screw

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Seat studs may fracture during normal use. However, Freedman has not been able to duplicate this through fatigue testing.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : S&S International

Address : 28005 West Commercial Avenue
Lake Barrington ILLINOIS 60010

Country : United States

Chronology :

The subject nonconforming hex head cap screws were received by Freedman from S&S International on January 15, 2016. The subject hex head cap screws were removed from Freedman's production floor and quarantined on January 20, 2016. Freedman then conducted testing of its seats with the subject nonconforming hex head cap screws to FMVSS 222 and discovered that the seats which included the subject hex head cap screws failed. Freedman has also concluded that the ICS Seats may present a defect relating to safety as they may not be compliant to FMVSS 213 given the dynamic nature of this test.

Based on in-process production times for the subject seats, we have determined that no bus seats were manufactured with the subject nonconforming hex head cap screws after January 29, 2016. Therefore, although Freedman's investigation is continuing, we have determined that seats containing the nonconforming hex head cap screws were manufactured between 4 pm on January 15, 2016 and January 29, 2016.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Turtle Top will notify their customer that ICS seats (manufactured by Freedman) installed in their bus are being recalled. Customer has already been notified via email on 4/21/16. Freedman will supply replacement seats for replacement of the non compliant seats.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy seat assembly will utilize studs that comply with Freedman's specifications to meet FMVSS 222 and FMVSS 213 requirements

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : On January 20, 2016 Freedman issued a Nonconforming Material Report to S & S International, removed the subject screws from the production floor and quarantined the subject screws. On January 22, 2016 Freedman received a replacement shipment of conforming hex head cap screws from S&S International. Freedman conducted torque testing and FMVSS 222 testing on seats using these hex head cap screws with compliant results.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Customer has been notified of intent to file a recall via email on 4/21/16.
Letter(s) will be mailed upon assignment of Vehicle Safety Defect Recall number by NHTSA

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 16, 2016 - MAY 18, 2016

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 16, 2016 - MAY 18, 2016

* NR - Not Reported