



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

October 26, 2017

Ms. Elaine Haschel  
Braun Corporation  
631 W 11th St.  
Winamac, IN 46996

NEF-150KS  
17V-616

**Subject:** Air Bag may Deploy Improperly/FMVSS 208

Dear Ms. Haschel:

This letter serves to acknowledge Braun Corporation'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:**

BRAUN/BRAUNABILITY MXV/2016

**Mfr's Report Date:** October 3, 2017

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 17V-616

**Components:**

AIR BAGS:FRONTAL  
SEATS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 308

**Problem Description:**

Braun Corporation (Braun) is recalling certain model year 2016 BraunAbility MXV wheelchair accessible conversion vehicles built on Ford Explorer chassis. If the driver or front passenger seat is moved to its most rearward position, the seat position sensor may be dislodged, preventing the air bag control unit from accurately calculating the frontal air bag deployment force needed in the event of a crash.

**Consequence:**

In the event of a crash, if the frontal air bag does not deploy with the proper force, the occupants have an increased risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

Braun will notify owners, and dealers will modify the seat base pedestals to provide the necessary clearance for the seat position sensor, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Braun customer service at 1-800-488-0359.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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).

The information in your report suggests that Braun may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. Please be reminded that under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. 49 CFR 573.6 Significant civil penalties can be assessed for this violation.

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](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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