

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

April 19, 2019

Ms. Mary Gabalski Fenton Mobility Products, Inc. 26 Center Street Randolph, NY 14772 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-150MR 19V-183

Subject: Wheelchair Lift may Raise too High/FMVSS 403

Dear Ms. Gabalski:

This letter serves to acknowledge Fenton Mobility Products, 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:

FORD/TRANSIT/2015-2017

Mfr's Report Date: March 6, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19V-183

**Components:** 

**EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE** 

Potential Number of Units Affected: 137

## **Problem Description:**

Fenton Mobility Products, Inc. (Fenton) is recalling certain 2015-2017 Ford Transit passenger vans modified to be equipped with Ricon S & K Titanium Wheelchair Lifts. The wheelchair lift positioning input cam may fail while the lift is in use, allowing the platform to travel higher than the vehicle's floor height. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 403, "Platform Lift Systems."

#### **Consequence:**

If the wheelchair lift platform stops above the vehicle floor, the wheelchair user can tip inwards toward the vehicle when exiting the lift, increasing their risk of injury.

## Remedy:

Fenton will notify owners, and a service technician will install Ricon Recall Parts Kit RI61396, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Fenton Mobility customer service at 1-716-484-7014. Fenton's number for this recall is RI61396.

# 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 Fenton'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:

- Your company must supply the estimated date(s) for which it will notify owners regarding this safety recall. If your company subsequently becomes aware that either the beginning or the completion dates reported to the agency for any of the notifications will be delayed by more than two weeks, your company shall promptly advise the agency of the delay and the reasons therefore, and furnish a revised estimate (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(ii)). You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.
- Your company must supply the estimated date(s) for which it will notify dealers and/or distributors regarding this safety recall. If your company subsequently becomes aware that either the beginning or the completion dates reported to the agency for any of the notifications will be delayed by more than two weeks, your company shall promptly advise the agency of the delay and the reasons therefore, and furnish a revised estimate. (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(ii)).

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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Kareem Habib

Acting Chief, Recall Management Division

Malon Aduly

Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

