

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20E-004

Manufacturer Name : Freedman Seating Company

Submission Date : FEB 06, 2020

NHTSA Recall No. : 20E-004

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Freedman Seating Company

Address : 4545 West Augusta BLVD
Chicago IL 60651

Company phone : 8004434540

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 2,500

Estimated percentage with defect : 10 %

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : Freedman

Model : 2pl GO-ES 3pt Foldaway Seat Assy

Part No. : 43705

Size : 36" width

Function : seating

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined by identifying the total number of GO-ES Foldaway Seats manufactured from When Freedman received the suspect retractor through the production date after supplier notification. These seat belts in these seats can be easily inspected for non-conformance and replaced if necessary.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2019 - JAN 23, 2020

Brand / Trade 2 : Freedman

Model : 2pl GO-ES 3pt Foldaway Seat Assy

Part No. : 45467

Size : 36" width

Function : seating

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined by identifying the total number of GO-ES Foldaway Seats manufactured from When Freedman received the suspect retractor through the production date after supplier notification. These seat belts in these seats can be easily inspected for non-conformance and replaced if necessary.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2019 - JAN 23, 2020

Brand / Trade 3 : Freedman

Model : 2pl 3pt Foldaway Seat Assy

Part No. : 26400
Size : 36" width
Function : seating

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined by identifying the total number of 3pt Foldaway Seats manufactured from when Freedman received the suspect retractor through the production date after supplier notification. These seat belts in these seats can be easily inspected for non-conformance and replaced if necessary.

Production Dates : SEP 19, 2019 - JAN 23, 2020

Brand / Trade 4 : Freedman
Model : 2pl 3pt Foldaway Seat Assy
Part No. : 26401
Size : 36" width
Function : seating

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined by identifying the total number of 3pt Foldaway Seats manufactured from when Freedman received the suspect retractor through the production date after supplier notification. These seat belts in these seats can be easily inspected for non-conformance and replaced if necessary.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2019 - JAN 23, 2020

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : The retractor incorporated in the subject seats is designed to be installed into applications where the seat back can fold down, such that the retractor moves with it. This design requires the retractor to have a block out mechanism. Without the block out mechanism, the vehicle sense mechanism in the retractor would lock when the retractor is tilted as the seat is folded down. Since it also will pay in webbing as the belt length is shortened due to the folding, the seat would not be able to be brought back upright because the shortened belt would be locked.

The block out mechanism prevents this locking issue by blocking out the vehicle sense locking mechanism based on how much webbing is on the spool and how much webbing has been paid out. It unblocks the vehicle sensor and resumes normal operation when a pre-set amount of webbing is extracted. The amount of webbing required to be extracted to enable normal operation of the retractor is referred to as the "block out zone."

In the suspect lots of retractors, the block out zone may have not been set correctly. If this occurred, it could block the vehicle sensor and affect the proper operation of the seat belt.

FMVSS 1 : 209 - Seat belt assemblies

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The potential for the vehicle sense to not engage represent a non-compliance to FMVSS209.

Description of the Cause : A part internal to the retractor which controls the timing of this block out feature was potentially installed incorrectly.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The defect can be easily identified by inspection, but a user under normal course of wearing the belt would not detect it.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Joyson Safety Systems

Address : 2500 Innovation Drive
Auburn Hills MICHIGAN 48326

Country : United States

Chronology :

Freedman Seating Corp purchases retractor components for installation into foldable seating systems.

On January 6, 2020, a mis-built part was discovered during Lot Acceptance Testing at the supplier.

On 1/9/2020 this issue was first reported to Freedman as matter under investigation.

Subsequent investigation identified the deficiency described above and confirmed the parts in the field were at risk of exhibiting this defect.

On 1/29/20, this information was reviewed with the supplier and the determination was made that a potential defect existed.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Freedman will notify those vehicle builders who purchased the seat and Freedman will provide a Seat Inspection & Repair Procedure. Freedman/JSS will reimburse the cost of repairs relating to this recall, including both parts and labor, at no cost to the vehicle manufacturer or vehicle owner. Parts for this recall are anticipated to be available for shipment. Vehicle owners may contact Freedman Customer Service at 800-443-4540

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The internal mechanisms in the retractor will be properly assembled.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : On January 8, 2020, the seat belt supplier implemented 100% block out testing. On January 23, 2020, the seat manufacturer implemented retractor inspection during seat assembly.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : TBD

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

* NR - Not Reported