



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

January 4, 2024

Mr. Jim Mariel  
Villa International  
13760 Midway Street  
Cerritos, CA 90703

NEF-107KL  
23E-098

**Subject:** Incorrect Weld May Cause Seat Failure/FMVSS 207

Dear Mr. Mariel:

This letter serves to acknowledge Villa International'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:**

VILLA/SEATING PEDESTAL/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** December 29, 2023

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 23E-098

**Components:**

SEATS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 35

**Problem Description:**

Villa International is recalling certain pedestals and seat anchorages, part number 400004. The pedestal mounting plate may be improperly welded, causing the plate to separate and the seat assembly to loosen or detach. As such, these seat assemblies fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 207, "Seating Systems," and number 210, "Seat belt assembly anchorages."

**Consequence:**

A loose or detached seat assembly increases the risk of injury.

**Remedy:**

Villa International will work with the affected vehicle manufacturers to inspect for a missing weld, and replace the pedestal, as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed January 9, 2024. Owners may contact Villa International customer service at 1-888-707-7272.

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



**Please ensure the following requirements are met:**

An identification and description of the risk to motor vehicle safety reasonably related to the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(5)). All filings should state an increased risk of either a crash, injury or fire.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

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).

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.

As stated in 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 573.7, submission of the first of eight 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. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Villa International's contact for this recall will be Kristin Lepper who may be reached by email at [kristin.lepper@dot.gov](mailto:kristin.lepper@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement