

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

March 19, 2024

Mr. David Klopp Freedman Seating Company 4545 W. Augusta Blvd Chicago, IL 60651 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-107KL 24E-026

Subject: Seat Back Malfunction/FMVSS 208

Dear Mr. Klopp:

This letter serves to acknowledge Freedman Seating Company'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:

FREEDMAN/GO-ES FOLDAWAY SEAT/9999

Mfr's Report Date: March 14, 2024

NHTSA Campaign Number: 24E-026

**Components:** 

**SEATS** 

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 769

## **Problem Description:**

Freedman Seating Company (Freedman) is recalling certain 2place GO-ES Space Save Foldaway Seats part numbers, 88335, 89316, and 1place GO-ES Space Save Foldaway Seat part numbers, 102860, and 102861. The recliner mechanism may not engage when the seat back is fully reclined. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 210, "Seat Belt Assembly Anchorage."

#### **Consequence:**

The seat back could release under the shoulder belt load, increasing the risk of injury during a crash.

#### Remedy

Dealers will inspect and repair the seat, as necessary, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a schedule for recall notification. Owners may contact Freedman customer service at 1-800-443-4540.

#### **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.



## Please ensure the following requirements are met:

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 therefor, and furnish a revised estimate. If your company does not have dealers or distributors, please state so in the 573 (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(ii)).

### AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Your company must supply the estimated date(s) for which it will notify owners regarding this safety recall. Please be reminded that all owners must be notified of the safety risk associated with this filing within 60 days of the 573 being submitted. If the remedy is not available at that time, mail the interim notice, following it with a second notice once the remedy becomes available. 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 therefor, and furnish a revised estimate. If there are no owners involved in this recall, please state so in the 573 (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(ii)).

#### AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

In the case of items of motor vehicle equipment, the manufacturer of the equipment shall identify by name, business address, and business telephone number every manufacturer that purchases the defective or noncomplying component for use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(2)(v)).

### 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.



Freedman Seating Company's contact for this recall will be Kristin Lepper who may be reached by email at kristin.lepper@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

