



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

July 11, 2024

Ms. Isabel Chanocua
Service & Warranty Administrat
ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, LLC
51165 Greenfield Parkway
Middlebury, IN 46540

NEF-107HG
24V-500

Subject: Seat Back Malfunction/FMVSS 207

Dear Ms. Chanocua:

This letter serves to acknowledge ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, LLC'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:

ARBOC/SPIRIT OF FREEDOM/2023-2024
ARBOC/SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE/2023-2024
ARBOC SPECIALTY VEHICLES/SPIRIT OF MOBILITY/2023-2024

Mfr's Report Date: July 2, 2024

NHTSA Campaign Number: 24V-500

Components:

SEATS

Potential Number of Units Affected: TBD

Problem Description:

ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, LLC (ARBOC) is recalling certain 2023-2024 Spirit of Freedom, Spirit of Independence, and Spirit of Mobility vehicles, equipped with certain GO-ES Space Saver Foldaway Seats. 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 Anchorages."

Consequence:

The seat back could release when force is applied to the shoulder belt, increasing the risk of injury during a crash.

Remedy:

ARBOC will work with the equipment manufacturer, Freedman, to inspect and repair the seats as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed in July 2024. Owners may contact ARBOC customer service at 1-866-953-5555.

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:

The total number of products potentially containing the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(3)).

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

The percentage of products estimated to contain the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(4)). If less than 1%, amend your filing to state 1% and provide the actual calculated amount in the first product text box.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Your company's program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of your company's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with § 573.13. Your company's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by § 573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in your company's report to NHTSA. If your company submits one or more general reimbursement plans, your company shall update each plan every two years (§ 573.13). If the vehicles are new and would be covered under the manufacturer's warranty program, please state that in the remedy section of your filing.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(i)).

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, LLC's contact for this recall will be Hensly Guerra who may be reached by email at hensly.guerra1@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Ansley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a checkmark at the end.

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