



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

June 6, 2012

MR. JACK TEREFINO  
SENIOR DIRECTOR - ENGINEERING  
KOVATCH MOBILE EQUIPMENT CORP.  
ONE INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX  
NESQUEHONING, PA 18240

NVS-2151rd  
12V-253

Subject: ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL

Dear MR. TEREFINO:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corporation's (KME) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the equipment 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:**

KME/PREDATOR/2010-2011  
KME/PREDATOR SS/2010-2011  
KME/PREDATOR PANTHER/2010-2011  
KME/PREDATOR XL/2010-2011

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-253

**Mfg's Report Date:** January 9, 2012

**Components:** ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 78

**Summary:**

KOVATCH MOBILE EQUIPMENT CORPORATION (KME) IS RECALLING CERTAIN 2010-2011 PREDATOR, PREDATOR SS, PREDATOR PANTHER, AND PREDATOR XL EMERGENCY VEHICLES MANUFACTURED FROM MARCH 1, 2010 THROUGH OCTOBER 10, 2011, EQUIPPED WITH FEATURE CODE 04AZX MERITOR WABCO ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL (ESC) UNITS. UNDER CERTAIN ROAD AND DRIVING CONDITIONS, VEHICLE BODY ROLL AND ROAD INCLINATION CHARACTERISTICS MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT THE SLIP ANGLE CALCULATION OF THE ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL (ESC) SYSTEM. THIS MIGHT CAUSE THE ESC TO PERCEIVE AN OVER STEERING SITUATION AND THEREFORE APPLY THE OUTER WHEEL BRAKE ON THE FRONT AXLE UNTIL THE VEHICLE IS PERCEIVED TO BE STABLE.

**Consequence:**

THE VEHICLE MAY DEVIATE FROM THE INTENDED LINE OF TRAVEL, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

KME WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL INSTALL A NEW ESC MODULE FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON, OR BEFORE, JUNE 15, 2012. OWNERS MAY CONTACT KME AT 1-570-669-5154.

**Notes:**

KME RECALL NUMBER L-02. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received KME'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.

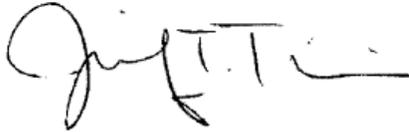
Your 573 report indicated that Meritor WABCO notified you of the safety issue in your product on January 5, 2012. NHTSA did not receive your 573 until June 4, 2012. Under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. (49 CFR 573.6) Significant civil penalties can be assessed for this violation. (49 U.S.C. 30165(a)(1)) Please explain, in writing, why KME did not notify NHTSA and file its defect report within 5 business days and why penalties should not be assessed.

Please be reminded of the following information:

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).

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, or by email at [Edison.Thompson@dot.gov](mailto:Edison.Thompson@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement