

**WORKHORSE**

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Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

OFFICE

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

May 9, 2000

00V-139 (2)

**Subject: Safety Defect Report**

**Dear Sir:**

**Workhorse Custom Chassis has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the NHTSA in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.**

**Our Manufacturer's identification code for this recall is Safety Campaign 50001C.**

**The Full Corporate name of the Manufacturer is Workhorse Custom Chassis, L.L.C.**

**The Corporate Official to be contacted by NHTSA:**

**Charles Christy  
National Service Manager  
29508 Southfield Road  
Southfield, Michigan 48076      Phone 248-443-1477 FAX 248-443-1491**

**I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall**

<b><u>Make</u></b>	<b>Workhorse Custom Chassis</b>
<b><u>Model Years Involved</u></b>	<b>1999 and 2000</b>
<b><u>Models</u></b>	<b>P320032 Motorhome Chassis P320042 Commercial Chassis</b>
<b><u>Production Dates</u></b>	<b>Beginning—10-07-99 Ending—01-25-00</b>
<b><u>VIN Range</u></b>	<b>Beginning—X3312967 Ending—Y3317263</b>
<b><u>Descriptive information</u></b>	<b>Units involved have option JB8 Power Hydraulic Brakes.</b>

29508 Southfield Road  
Southfield, Michigan 48076  
Direct: 248.443.1515 (Sales)  
& 248.443.1477 (Service)  
Facsimile: 248.443.1491  
Electronic: [www.workhorsec.com](http://www.workhorsec.com)

## II. Identify the Recall Population

There are 476 vehicles involved in this recall and the potential defect is present in 100% of the vehicles.

## III. Describe the Defect

### Description of Defect

An incorrect Antilock Brake control module was installed on all vehicles involved.

### Consequence of the Defect

The incorrect module, used on all 476 involved vehicles, does not reduce brake power to the rear axle brakes. In the event of Antilock module failure, the additional brake power can cause the rear wheels to lock up causing rear tire skid.

Unexpected rear tire skid could cause loss of vehicle control possibly resulting in a vehicle collision. Brakes would "feel" more aggressive in normal operation with no Antilock module failure. The defect does not affect compliance to FMVSS 105 stopping distance.

### Identify any Warning

Failure of the Antilock module will activate a dash warning light revealing to the driver that the Anti-lock brake feature is not in operation.

## IV. Chronology in Determining the Defect

1-12-00. Materials Department found that two ABS modules were called out causing possible mis-build condition.

1-13-00. Quality Department opened investigation. During this investigation it was determined that a number of vehicles were built with an incorrect ABS Module.

1-14-00. Engineering corrected the Production EPL (Engineering Parts List)

1-26-00. Quality Department provided findings to Engineering. Engineering was asked to evaluate brake performance and compliance with FMVSS with the incorrect module.

From 2-1-00 to 3-01-00. Engineering testing concluded that incorrectly built vehicles met FMVSS 105 requirements and that there were no compliance problems. However, the part was not designed for the application resulting in more aggressive rear brakes.

4-18-00. After through discussions and further investigation Engineering concluded there was a possibility of rear wheel lock if the Antilock module failed.

4-25-00. The PRC (Product Review Committee) recommended that item be considered for a Safety recall based on rear wheel lock-up in the event of antilock brake feature failure.

5-2-00. Workhorse Custom Chassis President was informed on the results of the PRC Committee recommendations and decided that the vehicles have a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety and that they should be repaired.

Workhorse Custom Chassis is not aware of any customer complaints, Field Reports, failures, warranty claims, accidents, injuries, fatalities, or other field data regarding the defect vehicles.

#### V. Identify the Remedy

##### Remedy

The vehicles will be corrected by replacing the antilock brake module as described by Safety Campaign Bulletin 50001C. This is the identical correction that entered Workhorse Custom Chassis production on 1-25-00.

#### VI. Identify Recall Schedule

5-15-00 Or before. Mail Bulletin to Workhorse Dealers and Body Builders. Mail Owner letter to owners on record.

6-15-00. Additional owner mailing as new data is received from body builders.

7-15-00. Additional owner letter mailing, if not completed in previous mailing.

#### VII. Recall Communications Furnished

The proposed owner notification letter is enclosed. We intend to mail this letter shortly. Please advise us if you have any questions. Please provide us the campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

Sincerely;



Winston M. Moore

**WORKHORSE**

00K-139 (04)

Dear Workhorse Custom Chassis Owner

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Workhorse Custom Chassis has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the 1999 and 2000 model P30042 and P30032 chassis with the JBS power hydraulic brake option.

Workhorse Custom Chassis is conducting a safety recall campaign to change the Antilock Electronic Brake Control Module on your vehicle.

#### REASON FOR THIS SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN

An incorrect brake module was installed on your vehicle during manufacture. This incorrect module does not reduce brake power to the rear axle. This event can only occur if the antilock brake system electronic control module should fail. In the unlikely event of antilock brake electronic control module failure, the non-reduced hydraulic power applied to the rear axle in an emergency stop situation could cause the rear wheels to lock up. Vehicle control can be lost when rear brakes are locked and wheels are skidding, possibly resulting in a vehicle crash.

#### WHAT MUST BE DONE

You should take your vehicle to your local Workhorse Custom Chassis dealer as soon as possible to complete the recall work at no charge to you. You may continue to drive your vehicle normally until the recall work is completed. However, if the antilock electronic brake system dash warning light comes on and stays on, indicating antilock electronic system failure, have your vehicle checked at any authorized Workhorse Custom Chassis dealer immediately.

#### WHAT YOU MUST DO

Call your local Workhorse Custom Chassis Dealer and make an appointment to have the work done. Reference should be made to Recall Bulletin 50001-C and you should provide your vehicle serial number (VIN) to the dealer. Your dealer may have to order parts to perform the work on your vehicle.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please call Workhorse Custom Chassis Customer Assistance toll free at 1-877-946-7731.

It is recommended that you complete this safety campaign as soon as possible. Failure to do so could legally be determined to be lack of proper maintenance of your vehicle.

If your dealer and Workhorse Custom Chassis are unable to correct this condition within a reasonable time, you may wish to contact Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590, or call 800-424-9393 (for Washington DC 202-366-0123)

We certainly appreciate your buying our product and truly regret the inconvenience that this recall may cause you.

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Workhorse Custom Chassis