



**SPARTAN MOTORS, INC.**

1541 Reynolds Road Charlotte, MI 48813 USA

**RECEIVED**

*By Recall Management Division at 9:27 am, Sep 30, 2013*

[www.spartanmotors.com](http://www.spartanmotors.com)

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September 2013

Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Recall Management Division  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. - Defect Information Report

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations Spartan Motors, Inc, on behalf of Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc. (Spartan Chassis) hereby reports a defect relating to motor vehicle safety. Spartan Chassis has decided a defect exists on school bus chassis built between August 9, 2011 and August 28, 2013.

Please contact me with any questions as it relates to this matter.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Wesley D. Chestnut'.

Wesley D. Chestnut  
Lead, Compliance



Spartan Motors, Inc.  
1541 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
P: 517.543.6400 ext. 3275  
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**Defect Information Report  
13023**

**573.6(c)(1):** Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.  
1541 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte, MI 38813

**573.6(c)(2):** School bus chassis affected by this recall are equipped with a steering wheel installed by Spartan Chassis. A pulse torque tool was used in the installation of the steering wheel to tighten the steering wheel nut to specification. Other product on which steering wheels are installed, the steering wheel nut is tightened to specification with a “clicker” style torque wrench.

<b>Make</b>	Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc.
<b>Models</b>	SB
<b>Model Years</b>	2011, 2013, and 2014
<b>Vehicle Type</b>	School bus chassis
<b>Weight Range (GVWR)</b>	29800 lbs - 31000 lbs
<b>VDM Range</b>	12/21/2010 through 9/18/2013

Table 1

**573.6(c)(3)** The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect is shown in **Table 2**.

<b>Model</b>	<b>Model Year</b>	<b>Number Involved</b>
SB	2011	6
SB	2013	38
SB	2014	94
<b>Total</b>		138

Table 2

**573.6(c)(4)** The percentage of the vehicles shown in **Table 2** to actually contain the defect is unknown.

**573.6(c)(5)** There was an unknown condition associated with the pulse torque tool which resulted in the steering wheel nut being loose. A loose steering wheel nut may back completely off of the mounting shaft allowing the steering wheel to become loose without warning.



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A loose steering wheel may result in loss of vehicle control which could cause a vehicle crash.

**573.6(c)(6) Pending**

**573.6(c)(8)** The steering wheel nut torque will be verified on the affected vehicles. This will be done at no charge customer notification is expected to begin before the end of September.