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13V-574  
(3 Pages)



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November 19, 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: Utilimaster - 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 Utilimaster, hereby reports a defect relating to motor vehicle safety. Utilimaster has decided a defect involving 586 P80X model walk-in vans built between May 2, 2013 and August 28, 2013.

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

Best Regards,

Wesley D. Chestnut  
Lead, Compliance



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## Defect Information Report

**573.6(c)(1):** Utilimaster  
608 Earthway Boulevard  
Bristol, IN 46507

**573.6(c)(2):** P80X walk in vans affected by this recall are equipped with heater hoses that are routed in a manner that creates a bending condition, “kinking,” in the return heater hose. Other product models have different hose routings.

<b>Make</b>	Utilimaster
<b>Models</b>	P80X
<b>Model Years</b>	2013 , 2014
<b>Vehicle Type</b>	Walk-in Van
<b>Weight Range (GVWR)</b>	19,500 lbs
<b>VDM Range</b>	5/2/13 through 8/28/13

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>
P80X	2013	273
P80X	2014	313
<b>Total</b>		586

Table 2

**573.6(c)(4)** The percentage of the vehicles produced between the dates of manufacturing shown in **Table 2** that contain the defect is unknown.

**573.6(c)(5)** The return coolant hose may kink at the bulkhead connector causing reduced, or no, coolant flow through the defrost and defog system. This could reduce the ability of the defrost and defog system to clear the windshield in the event of a fogging condition which may reduce driver visibility without warning. Reduced driver visibility may result in a vehicle crash.



**573.6(c)(6)** September 10, 2013 – Utilimaster received a customer complaint related to a kinked return coolant hose. Based on the complaint, Utilimaster began investigating the installation of the hose.

October 31, 2013 – The problem, and cause, was presented to the corrective action review team while the total scope of the issue was being determined.

November 11, 2013 – Utilimaster decides to conduct a voluntary recall to inspect, and correct as needed, the vehicles affected by this condition.

**573.6(c)(8)** Utilimaster will pay UPS for the inspection, replacement, and rerouting of the return coolant hose. Customer notification is expected to begin on, or before, December 6, 2013.