



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 22, 2015

Mr. Wesley Chestnut
Spartan Motors USA
1541 Reynolds Road
Charlotte, MI 48813

NVS-215KS
15V-540

Subject: Front Splay Rails May Crack

Dear Mr. Chestnut:

This letter serves to acknowledge Spartan Motors USA'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:

SPARTAN/GLADIATOR/2012-2013
SPARTAN/METROSTAR/2012-2013

Mfr's Report Date: August 24, 2015

NHTSA Campaign Number: 15V-540

Components:

STRUCTURE:FRAME AND MEMBERS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 141

Problem Description:

Spartan Motors USA (Spartan) is recalling certain model year 2012-2013 Gladiator and MetroStar emergency vehicles manufactured March 4, 2013, to May 30, 2013. In the affected vehicles, the front splay rails may crack.

Consequence:

If the front splay rails crack, they may separate, causing the cab to collapse when it is being raised, increasing the risk of injury to those nearby.

Remedy:

The remedy for this recall is still under development. The recall is expected to begin in September 2015. Owners may contact Spartan customer service at 1-517-543-6400. Spartan's number for this recall is 15019.

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.safercar.gov.

We have received Spartan'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.

Please amend your Defect Information report to include Spartan's proposed remedy once it has been determined.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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.

As required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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