

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

May 6, 2019

Mr. Michael Davis V.P. Manufacturing Excellance, Inc 453 Lanier Road Madison, AL 35758

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-150MR 19V-236

**Subject:** Brake Light may Randomly Illuminate/FMVSS 108

Dear Mr. Davis:

This letter serves to acknowledge Excellance, Inc'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:

FORD/E-350/2018 FORD/E-450/2018 FORD/F-550/2018 FORD/F-650 SD/2018 FREIGHTLINER/M2/2018 RAM/4500/2018

Mfr's Report Date: March 26, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19V-236

#### **Components:**

**EXTERIOR LIGHTING:BRAKE LIGHTS** 

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 36

## **Problem Description:**

Excellance, Inc. (Excellance) is recalling certain 2018 Ambulances and Emergency Vehicles built on Ford E-350, E-450, F-650, F-550 4x4, Chevrolet G4500, G4500 Diesel, C3500, G3500, Freightliner M2, International 4300, and Dodge 4500 chassis and equipped with Whelen brake lights. Depending on the specific wiring of the vehicle, these brake lights may illuminate when the brake pedal has not been pressed. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 108, "Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment."

### **Consequence:**

If the brake lights incorrectly illuminate, it can confuse other drivers, possibly increasing the risk of a crash.

## Remedy:

Excellance has notified owners, instructing them to contact Whelen to have the brake lights replaced, free of charge. The recall began on March 26, 2019. Owners may contact Whelen customer service at 1-860-718-2331 or Execellance at 1-256-772-9321.



#### 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.

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 that you say that you mailed in March 2019 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).

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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Kareem Habib

Acting Chief, Recall Management Division

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Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

