



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 20, 2021

Mr. David Klopp
Freedman Seating Company
4545 W. Augusta Blvd
Chicago, IL 60651

NEF-107KL
21E-046

Subject: Seat Belt Retractor May Lock/FMVSS 208 and 209

Dear Mr. Klopp:

This letter serves to acknowledge Freedman Seating Company'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:

FREEDMAN/GO-ES DOUBLE FLIPSEAT/9999
FREEDMAN/GO-ES DOUBLE RIGID SEAT/9999

Mfr's Report Date: May 13, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21E-046

Components:

SEAT BELTS:REAR/OTHER:RETRACTOR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 400

Problem Description:

Freedman Seating Company (Freedman) is recalling certain GO-ES Double Flipseat, part number 46183, and GO-ES Double Rigid Seat, part number 92585 passenger seats. The seat belt retractor may lock when the vehicle is on an incline. As such, these seats fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards numbers 208, "Occupant Crash Protection" and 209, "Seat Belt Assemblies."

Consequence:

A passenger may remove their seat belt when the retractor locks, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

Freedman provide inspection and repair instructions, free of charge. Notification letters are expected to be mailed June 15, 2021. Owners may contact Freedman customer service at 800-443-4540.

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 ensure the following requirements are met:

An identification and description of the risk to motor vehicle safety reasonably related to the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(5)). All filings should state an increased risk of either a crash, injury or fire.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Per the requirements of 49 USC 30119, please provide the part number, name and description of the component or components involved in this recall. This information should be provided in an amended 573 in the "Involved Components" section.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(i)).

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

As required in Part 573.6(c)(7), in the case of a noncompliance, please provide the test results and other information used to determine the existence of the noncompliance. Include the date of each test and observation that indicated that a noncompliance might or did exist. When was the first complaint received.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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.

Freedman Seating Company's contact for this recall will be Kristin Lepper who may be reached by email at kristin.lepper@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement