

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 22V-778

**Manufacturer Name :** Spartan Fire, LLC**Submission Date :** OCT 21, 2022**NHTSA Recall No. :** 22V-778**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 22007**Manufacturer Information :****Manufacturer Name :** Spartan Fire, LLC**Address :** 1541 Reynolds Road  
Charlotte MI 48813**Company phone :** 517-588-4700**Population :****Number of potentially involved :** 225**Estimated percentage with defect :** 100 %**Vehicle Information :****Vehicle 1 :** 2021-2023 Spartan Fire Gladiator, MetroStar, FC-94, and KME Panther**Vehicle Type :** BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES**Body Style :** OTHER**Power Train :** DIESEL

**Descriptive Information :** The emergency response cab chassis affected by this recall are equipped with a Meritor axle using suspect tie rod clamps supplied to Meritor between December 16, 2021 and May 16, 2022. Refer to Meritor recall 22E-085. Meritor supplied axle Serial Numbers that were traced to the affected cab chassis.

Quantity 3 - Gladiator 2021 trucks affected.

Quantity 12 - MetroStar 2021 trucks affected.

Quantity 32 - Gladiator 2022 trucks affected.

Quantity 92 - MetroStar 2022 trucks affected.

Quantity 55 - FC-94 2022 trucks affected.

Quantity 1 - KME Panther 2022 truck affected.

Quantity 2 - Gladiator 2023 trucks affected.

Quantity 10 - MetroStar 2023 trucks affected.

Quantity 11 - FC-94 2023 trucks affected.

Quantity 3 - KME Panther trucks affected.

**Production Dates :** JAN 27, 2022 - SEP 26, 2022**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR☐ Not sequential

**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Based upon information provided by Meritor's supplier, due to a heat treat issue, Meritor has determined that a population of tie rod clamps used in the manufacture of the subject axle population may be susceptible to cracking. Over time, a crack may lead to a complete fracture of the clamp, thereby reducing clamp load to the tie rod end. If both clamps on the tie rod were to fail, the cross tube could start to unscrew, vehicle alignment issues would evolve, and there is a potential for the tie rod end to separate from the cross tube. Separation is more likely to occur when tie rod loads are highest, which is at slow vehicle speeds over rough terrain or turning maneuvers.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Separation of the tie rod end from the cross tube could result in partial loss of vehicle steering capability, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Excessive carbon caused by a damaged control board on one of four furnaces at the supplier.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The initial effect would be a vehicle out of alignment. If both clamps on the tie rod cracked, the tube could rotate and result in a partial loss of steering capability.

**Involved Components :**

Component Name 1 : Tie Rod Assembly

Component Description : Tie Rod Clamp

Component Part Number : Unknown

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : Meritor

Address : 22021 Skyway Church Rd  
Maxton North Carolina 28364

Country : United States

**Chronology :**

Refer to NHTSA Recall 22E-085 for the Meritor chronology.

On September 15, 2022 - Spartan Fire received communication from Meritor of a steering arm clamp issue. An investigation was started and a potential population identified.

October 3 - 14, 2022 - Spartan Fire received communication from Meritor about recall 22E-085. A final population is still being identified with Meritor. Stop ship issued within Spartan Fire. Escalated the issue to REV Group Management.

October 14, 2022 - REV's senior leadership approved a voluntary recall for this issue.

October 19, 2022 - Meritor provided Spartan a final serial number list affected. Spartan determined final population.

### Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program :	Meritor will work with affected vehicle manufacturers to replace suspect tie rod clamps on the subject axles. The vehicles that have been remedied would have been covered through the normal warranty process.
How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :	Replacement tie rod clamps will meet Meritor's specifications for heat treatment.
Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :	The sub-supplier to Meritor's tier 1 supplier introduced metallurgical evaluation for excessive carburization for all heat treatment batches and an alarm was installed to alert operator if any deviating conditions occur. The correction was completed 5/11/2022.

### Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule :	Spartan to begin dealer and final stage manufacturer notification by week of November 14, 2022.
Planned Dealer Notification Date :	NOV 14, 2022 - NOV 18, 2022
Planned Owner Notification Date :	NOV 21, 2022 - NOV 25, 2022

\* NR - Not Reported