

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

24V-552

Manufacturer Name : A&J Vans Inc**Submission Date :** JUL 24, 2024**NHTSA Recall No. :** 24V-552**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 24E-026**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : A&J Vans Inc

Address : 333 WASHINGTON STREET
PO BOX 340 VALDERS WI 54245

Company phone : 9999

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 6

Estimated percentage with defect : 15 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2023-2023 FORD TRANSIT

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : FREEDMAN SEATING, Recall 24E-026 identified a safety issue with seats. Part # 88335 / model 2place GO-ES. A portion of seats manufactured between 12/11/2023 and 1/26/2024 were welded by an improperly trained technician, causing seat to fail lab testing on 1/26/2024. We received 10 units of this part # on 1/31/2024. These seats were installed across 6 vehicles between 1/24/2024 and 3/8/2024.

Production Dates : JAN 29, 2024 - MAR 08, 2024**VIN Range 1 :** Begin : FDAX9C84PPKB79370 End : 1FDAX2C85PKC09306 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : FREEDMAN SEATING, Recall 24E-026 identified a safety issue with seats. Part # 88335 / model 2place GO-ES. Incorrect welding process and use of welding fixtures posed a safety risk.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : According to: FREEDMAN SEATING, Recall 24E-026. If the seat back recliner mechanism is not fully engaged the seat back could release when a substantial load is applied to the shoulder belt potentially increasing the risk of injury to the seat occupant during a vehicle crash.

Description of the Cause : According to FREEDMAN SEATING, Recall 24E-026. An experienced welder who had been welding this component left their employment on 12/8/2023. The replacement welder was not effectively trained in the use of the welding fixtures and neglected to secure the additional fixture that was needed to accurately locate the recliner mechanism relative to the seat back stop.

Identification of Any Warning not reported
that can Occur :

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : 2place GO-ES Space Save Foldaway Seat

Component Description : Passenger Seat

Component Part Number : 88335

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Freedman Seating Company

Address : 4545 West Augusta Blvd
Chicago Illinois 60651

Country : United States

Chronology :

According to FREEMAN SEATING recall 24E-026: During an FMVSS 207/210 test in the company's test lab on 1/26/2024, the 2place GO-ES Space Save Foldaway Seat was unable to sustain the test load on the shoulder belts. Seat back adjusted position forward under load when the seat back was in fully reclined position. Investigation of the production processes for these seats on 1/29/2024 determined welding fixtures for the recliner mechanism were not being used properly. An experienced welder who had been welding this component left the company on 12/8/2023. Welder who took over this process was not effectively trained in the use of the welding fixtures and neglected to use the additional fixture that was needed to accurately locate the recliner mechanism relative to the seat back stop.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Freedman notified us as a vehicle builder who purchased seats and Freedman provided a Seat Inspection & Repair Procedure. A&J Identified 6 vehicles which received a total of 10 of these seats. We contacted purchasers of these vehicles, did an in-person inspection according to Freedman's guidelines. Viewing the recliner mechanism level when the seat back is in the upright and reclined positions. This inspection allowed us to identify that none of these seats we received from Freedman Seating and subsequently installed and sold were those of the affected group identified in recall 24E-026.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The position of the recliner mechanism handle for the remedy component will be in the same positions when the seat back is in the upright and the reclined positions. This would not be the case with the defective handle.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The production welder was trained on the correct use of the welding fixtures. Also, the welding fixture was modified to make it easier to use. Finally, there is a quality check during final seat assembly to verify recliner mechanism is fully engaged in reclined position of the seat back.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : We were notified by Freedman Seating Company on March, 2024. Within next 60 days, we had made identified all affected vehicles and made contact with owners via telephone. On-site visits for visual inspection per Freedman guidelines were made. Through this process we were able to identify that there were no defective units involved.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported