



## **IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL**

Via Certified Mail

NHTSA File: 15E034

Dear Dealer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Idle Free Systems, Inc. (“IFS”) has decided that two defects, which relate to motor vehicle safety, exist in the Idle Free Model BA600 electric Auxiliary Power Units (the “APUs”).

### **NATURE OF SAFETY DEFECT**

**Defect A- Defective C-channel Mount:** In certain Model BA600 APUs, the C-channels of the metal frame that attach the APU with bolts to the truck frame rail have shown evidence of cracking and tearing. There are no precautions that can be taken to prevent this from happening. The cracking and tearing, if it occurs, would result from the normal operation of the vehicle. If left uncorrected, the APU could fall off the vehicle frame rail. If this occurs, it could create a safety hazard, including a vehicle crash without prior warning.

**Defect B- Defective Mounting Bracket and Bolts:** In certain Model BA600 APUs, the back mounting brackets that tighten and secure the APU against the truck’s frame rail can deform, loosen, move freely or fall off, and the mounting bolts used with the back mounting brackets could loosen or fail. There are no precautions that can be taken to prevent this from happening. These malfunctions, if they occur, would result from the normal operation of the vehicle. If left uncorrected, the APU could fall off the vehicle frame rail. If this occurs, it could create a safety hazard, including a vehicle crash without prior warning.

Some of the APUs affected by this notice have both defects. Other APUs have only defect B. Attached to this notice as Exhibit A1 is a list of the serial numbers of the APUs with both defects. Attached to this notice as Exhibit B1 is a list of the serial numbers of the APUs with only defect B.

According to our records, you received APUs with one or both of these defects for sale and installation. You may still have these affected APUs in your inventory or installed on unsold vehicles. To ensure that no further defective APUs are sold to customers, we have already instructed you to cease the sale and installation of the APUs and not to sell unsold vehicles with installed defective APUs. Indeed, it is a violation of federal law to do so.



IFS have developed an upgrade kit (#91705) to correct defects A and B. These kits will be shipped to you at no cost. Once you have applied the upgrade kit to the APUs in your inventory, you may resume selling and installing those APUs. The prohibition against selling and installing APUs that contain defect A and/or defect B will remain in effect until you receive and apply the upgrade kit.

IFS will notify the owners/operators of trucks with affected APUs. Recall notification letters will be sent to them by first class mail once the NHTSA has approved the form and content of that notice. The notification letter will instruct the owners/operators to contact their nearest IFS dealer for correction of the affected APUs. If owners/operators with defective APUs bring their vehicles in before they receive their notification letters, for scheduled maintenance or for any other reason, apply the upgrade kit to the APUs.

Instructions for APU inspection and installation of the upgrade kit will be included with each kit (#61283 APU Inspection, #61277 Gussets, #61284 Brackets). If you have not received the upgrade kit and/or the instructions for inspecting and installing the upgrade kit by the week June 7, 2015, please contact IFS. As stated in the instructions, you should carefully inspect the frames of APUs with defect A that have been installed on vehicles in service. If you detect tearing or cracking, remove the APU from the truck and call IFS customer service before applying the upgrade kit. The upgrade kit should be installed to remedy defect B whether or not the existing brackets and bolts show any signs of loosening or detachment.

There will be no cost to the owners/operators for the remediation actions subject to this recall. Similarly, you will be reimbursed for your reasonable labor expenses.

### **IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED**

#### **Dealers must:**

- 1) Confirm that you have received this recall notice by signing the certified mail delivery receipt.**
- 2) Follow the IFS directed remediation actions that will be communicated to you.**
- 3) Assist IFS in identifying all owners/operators who are operating vehicles with installed defective APUs so that IFS can contact them about this recall. Please provide the names and addresses of all owners/operators to whom you sold any of the APUs having those serial numbers listed in exhibits A1 and B1. If you have information indicating that any of these owners/operators have sold their vehicle on which a defective APU was installed, please**



provide the names and addresses of the owners/operators to whom the vehicle was sold.

- 4) Once the owners/operators have been notified, assist all affected parties with completing the remediation actions subject to dealer and/or IFS supervision.
- 5) If owners/operators with defective APUs bring their vehicles in before they receive their notification letters, for scheduled maintenance or for any other reason, apply the upgrade kit to the APUs. Remediation actions must be completed before returning the vehicle back to service.
- 6) Carefully inspect the frames of APUs with defect A that have been installed on vehicles in service. If you detect tearing or cracking, remove the APU from the truck and call IFS customer service before applying the upgrade kit. The upgrade kit should be installed to remedy defect B whether or not the existing brackets and bolts show any signs of loosening or detachment.
- 6) Assist IFS with identifying in-stock (uninstalled) inventory serial numbers and status relative to defects A and B. Undertake remediation actions as indicated by the results of those inventory inspections.
- 7) If installed on a pending sale vehicle, defective APUs should be corrected or if not corrected, removed before the vehicle is placed into service.
- 8) Complete the warranty claim form on the dealer web portal to begin the reimbursement process. To receive a IFS claim number, you will be asked to provide the vehicle VIN number (if installed), APU serial number, date of remediation, and work to be performed. Once the upgrade kit has been installed, email [warranty@idlefreesystems](mailto:warranty@idlefreesystems) and attach a copy of the shop work order and IFS claim number.

IFS will have a Service Technician available to answer questions and support the installation of the upgrade kits. The time required to install the upgrade kits is estimated to be from one to five hours. Again, IFS will reimburse you for your labor expense to install the upgrade kits.

If you have already performed a defect A and/or defect B upgrade, you may be eligible for reimbursement of your labor expense for the work performed. To learn more about what you need to do to obtain reimbursement, contact Idle Free Systems at 1-920-206-9333.

If you believe that the work performed in installing the APU upgrades was not reimbursed by IFS, or paid within a reasonable amount of time, you may submit a



complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C., 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We apologize for any inconvenience this safety recall may cause, but your safety is our first concern. Your assistance with this recall is greatly appreciated.

Best Regards,

Safety Team  
Idle Free Systems, Inc.

Attachments: Exhibit A1  
Exhibit B1  
Remediation Decision Tree #61287  
BA600 Inspection Instruction #61283