

**Inside this issue:**

USED AMBULANCES	<b>2</b>
FORD EXTENDED WARRANTY	<b>2</b>
TIPS TO KEEP THEM GOING	<b>3</b>
HELPFUL WEBSITES	<b>3</b>
FORD 6.7 LITER	<b>3</b>
AMBULANCE PARTS	<b>4</b>
FORD EXT WARRANTY CONT.	<b>4</b>



**CAN YOU TELL WHICH ONE IS A REMOUNT ?**

**CHASSIS STATUS:  
CRITICAL**

In past issues we have tried to bring to your attention the status of the chassis situation. As some of you plan for your new budget year you may want to review your planned increases. Chassis built after January will increase a minimum of \$4,500.00 for the chassis only. Also, these chassis will not be built until after April. That will not be a problem if you do not need one until next summer.

**FORD**— The last of Ford’s diesel models will be built until January or until they run out of engines built prior to January 1st. Gasoline models have been delayed, vans start October 5th and Cut-aways November 5th. There will be no gasoline F series. Ford is going to offer a 6.7 liter diesel in the 2011 F series with Job 1 production start date of February 28th. So far they are saying that date will be met with end of March deliveries.

**CHEVROLET**— There are no more Chevrolet vans available. Chevrolet does not have money to

recertify this unit and the weight certification given to the 2010 model prevents it from being turned into an ambulance.

Please take note, any manufacturer who builds an ambulance with this new rating on the van chassis without recertifying the van will be in violation of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. This means they could be criminally and civilly liable if this vehicle is involved in an accident. Make sure they have a very large product liability policy before you buy.

Chevrolet took orders for the G-series until September 11th. It was revealed around the 22nd they do not have the pre-compliant engines to fill the orders. They will be short by around 2,500 engines. This is only another \$85 m hit on the economy. Production of the compliant engine will start in April at an additional \$4,500.00. Do not expect these chassis on the ground until June. There was talk that Chevrolet will have heavier GVWR available in the “C” cab chassis in 2012. The heaviest Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) for the Chevrolet

“C” series is 11,400 lbs compared to Ford’s 13,000 lbs. This GVWR is too light to mount any substantial body. Mounting an ambulance body will max out the payload.

**DODGE**— Nothing is really new at Dodge. They are built out for 2010 non compliant and will not start 2011’s till late March.

**SPRINTER**— Sprinter is still coming strong. It seems to be the salvation to the van industry if you want a diesel. There is a 6 month lead time on these chassis. This chassis warranty will be honored by Dodge, Freightliner and Mercedes.

**FREIGHTLINER**— If you have not ordered one of these, they Just went up at least \$6,700.00 as they have completed this model year.

**INTERNATIONAL**— Closed out it’s model year the first week of October.

It appears the remaining chassis are moving fast with many providers buying chassis to hold until after the first of the year. Predictions are the Ford and Chevy diesel chassis will run out prior to December 1st. Some Ford dealerships have ordered extra stock to cover the demand but these chassis will be sold at a premium. Ford is not offering any floor plans and the dealers will have to go to their local bank and tote the note. To take this gamble they will charge more which I think this is definitely fair and the only viable option available. If you need a diesel in the next 6 months, **now is the time to buy!** AEV has a substantial inventory on the ground of the PRE EMISSION chassis. Save money and order now before they run out. Please call for availability.



**1970 TYPE I CHEVY 3500 SINGLE REAR WHEELS. FIBERGLAS MODULANCE BUILT BY MODULAR AMBULANCE CORP GRAND PRAIRE TX. 454 CU GAS BURNER OPERATED BY AMBULANCE SERVICE OF BR. TOP IN 125 MPH AT 5 MPG OR LESS.**



1995 CHEV TYPE I 4X4 NATIONAL 112,000 MILES



2003 AEV TYPE III 244,017 MILES.



2005 WHEELED COACH TYPE III 90,000 PLUS MILES 2 AVAIL IN NOVEMBER-



1995 MCCOY MILLER TYPE III 120,000 MILES



2003 AEV FORD TYPE II LOW MILES LED LIGHTS

**USED AMBULANCES**

We have had a lot of calls recently of what to do with used units with 6.0 liters. Everyone that has one of these needs to go thru their receipts and see if they qualify for refunds thru the Ford lawsuit settlement. Those claims need to be filed immediately so you do not miss the dead line. If you receive any money, you should use this

money to offset the lack of money you will receive for the trade in of this unit. We sell a lot of our units overseas. We have found that the 6.0 has gained its reputation over there also. We actually had one customer overseas that pulled out the 6.0 and installed a 7.3. This required new wiring harnesses, transmission, proces-

sors and much more. Not the cheapest cure. The used 6.0 market is definitely one to watch. Currently most buyers of used vehicles are avoiding these units at all cost. The used market value depends on what it will bear. So far it will not bear the 6.0. The Ford settlement and the possibility of extended warranties may help.

**FORD EXTENDED WARRANTY AVAILABE FOR AMBULANCES**

We spend a lot of time talking to customers, dealers, salesmen and manufacturers. During this time believe it or not, we listen. One of our readers brought up a complaint of the fact that we never had brought to the table the extended warranty plan offered by Ford. Ford had in the past offered an extended warranty plan that many people swore by. Then arbitrarily Ford dissected the Ambulances from this program when they noticed a large volume of claims. Olathe Ford filled this gap by acquiring a policy from an insurance company. Back in the day of the 7. 3 Liter power stroke the value of this policy seemed to be higher than the benefits. Then came the 6.0 and the 6.4 liters. Bottom line we lost track of this information and never followed up.

When our reader brought us the information and we started tracking it down. At first there was some discussion if the hour meter played a role in this plan and that answer is no. There are two plans that cover the diesel engine only. There a couple of hiccups. First is ambulance, tow trucks, and shuttles have a surcharge of \$795.00. Second If the package is not purchase in the first

12 months or 12,000 miles there is \$100.00 surcharge. This plan is transferable.

Below is a breakdown of what we know.

7 Year/200,000 mile Coverage of 21 Components. This policy must be bought within the 3-year/36,000 mile bumper to bumper new vehicle limited Warranty. Things Covered:

- Internal Lubricated Parts
- Cylinder Block
- Cylinder Heads
- Oil Pump
- Timing Chain Cover
- Timing Chain (Gears or Belt)
- Turbocharger (factory Installed)
- Thermostat
- Thermostat Housing
- Water Pump
- Fuel Injectors
- Flywheel
- Manifold (Exhaust and intake)

- Manifold and Bolts
- Oil Pan
- Seals and Gaskets (Includes Cylinder Head Gasket)
- Valve Covers
- Crankcase Oil Cooler
- EGR Cooler
- Fuel Injection Pump
- Fuel Injection Pressure Regulator

The price for this policy with the ambulance surcharge is \$3205.00. Add \$100.00 if the unit has over 12,000 miles.

The next policy 7 Year/200,000 mile Coverage of only 13 components and has to be purchased prior to the 5 year/ 100,000 mile Diesel Power Stroke warranty.

- Internal Lubricated Parts
- Cylinder Block
- Cylinder Heads
- Oil Pump
- Timing Chain Cover

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



## TIPS TO KEEP THEM GOING

**CHEVROLET:** There have been some issues with torque converters on the 2008 G-3500's that apparently Chevrolet is aware of. Remember to check your front end alignments every 20,000 miles. Curbing idle time on the Chevrolet prevents regeneration and clogging of exhaust filters.

**INJECTORS-** Injectors send fuel to the cylinders at up to 30,000 psi. Pressures will be going up to meet the new EPA standards. Dirty fuel can create havoc on the system. Particles as small as .25mm will create problems. Making certain your fuel system provides the cleanest fuel possible is imperative. If you have your own fuel pumps change filters regularly. Check with your supplier and see if you can reduce the filter micron size. Make sure you routinely

change the unit filter according to the manufacturer specifications. If at all possible use the OEM filter. Address your crew about filling up at stations where the supply truck is dumping a load of fuel. This stirs the bottom of the tank and invites trouble. If you are having a lot of injector problems visit your fuel source and see how often they change filters on the pumps. The filter will usually have a date on it.

**110 VOLT CERAMIC HEATERS-** As winter approaches some customers will go out and put ceramic heaters in the back of the trucks to keep them warm. Caution should be used doing this. When not permanently attached these units are slung around and damaged. They can be pushed against

flooring and upholstery and cause a fire. The other issue is lack of knowledge on the part of the medics. Ceramic heaters are typically 1500 watts while most inverters are 1000 watts. Plugging a ceramic heater into inverters is an expensive source of heat. Inverters typically cost around \$1,000.00. We have seen this more than once. Teach your crews not to use the inverters for heat sources.



## HELPFUL WEBSITES

- Alabama Ambulance Association — [WWW.ALAMBULANCE.ORG](http://WWW.ALAMBULANCE.ORG)
- Alabama Association of Rescue Squads — [WWW.ALARS.ORG](http://WWW.ALARS.ORG)
- Alabama State EMS — [WWW.ADPH.ORG](http://WWW.ADPH.ORG)
- American Ambulance Association — [WWW.THE-AAA.ORG](http://WWW.THE-AAA.ORG)
- American Emergency Vehicles — [WWW.AEV.COM](http://WWW.AEV.COM)
- Arkansas Ambulance Assoc. — [WWW.AAINTOUCH.COM](http://WWW.AAINTOUCH.COM)
- Arkansas State EMS — [WWW.HEALTHYARKANSAS.COM/EMS/](http://WWW.HEALTHYARKANSAS.COM/EMS/)
- Louisiana Ambulance Association — [WWW.LOUISIANAAMBULANCEALLIANCE.ORG](http://WWW.LOUISIANAAMBULANCEALLIANCE.ORG)
- LA Bureau of EMS — [WWW.DHH.LOUISIANA.GOV/OFFICES/?ID=220](http://WWW.DHH.LOUISIANA.GOV/OFFICES/?ID=220)
- Southern Emergency and Rescue Vehicle Sales — [WWW.AMBULANCESOLUTIONS.COM](http://WWW.AMBULANCESOLUTIONS.COM)
- Texas Ambulance Association — [WWW.TXAMB.COM](http://WWW.TXAMB.COM)
- Texas Department of Health — [WWW.DSHS.STATE.TX.US/EMSTRAUMASYSTEMS/DEFAULT.SHTM](http://WWW.DSHS.STATE.TX.US/EMSTRAUMASYSTEMS/DEFAULT.SHTM)
- CMS Fee Schedule — [WWW.CMS.HHS.GOV/AMBULANCEFEESCHEDULE](http://WWW.CMS.HHS.GOV/AMBULANCEFEESCHEDULE)

## FORD'S NEW 6.7 LITER DIESEL

Ford claims their new engine will boost efficiency and performance. I think most providers would be happy with an engine that would stay on the road instead of the shop. The block will be compacted graphite iron and the heads will be aluminum. This construction will lighten the load by 160 lbs. According to an article in FLEETOWNER.com this engine has been designed to cut down heat transfer in the engine compartment as well as noise and vibration. Ford says they have tested this engine to meet the industry standard 250,000 mile durability requirements. It amazes me that Ford says the ambulance industry is the biggest drain on their warranty system, yet they never have an ambulance service be their beta test site. If they put a few of these test units out in the ambulance world we would quickly know the success rate of this engine.



**1974 MILLER METER CADILLAC AMBULANCE USED FOR LONG DISTANCE TRIPS. IN BACKGROUND 1975 MODULANCE MODUVAN CHEVROLET G-30 CUT-AWAY GAS BURNER 90 WIDE BODY.**



P.O. BOX 288  
 9180 HIGHWAY 67  
 CLINTON, LA 70722  
 Phone: 800-468-5473  
 Fax: 225-683-1466  
 E-mail: RREMOUNT@BELLSOUTH.NET

This publication is available electronically at no charge. We welcome all feedback, questions or comments. If you have received this newsletter and do not want to receive any more please send us an email and we will remove your name from our list. If you have additional personnel or friends that would like to be added please email your address and we will add them for the next mail out.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2009

**10/26-10/30** — EMS EXPO Atlanta, GA [WWW.PUBLICSAFETYEVENTS.COM](http://WWW.PUBLICSAFETYEVENTS.COM)

**11/05** — Louisiana Ambulance Alliance Membership Meeting  
[www.louisianaambulancealliance.org](http://www.louisianaambulancealliance.org)

**11/13-11/14** — Alabama Assoc of Rescue Squads Decatur, AL  
[www.alars.org](http://www.alars.org)

**11/16-11/17** — Alabama Assoc of Ambulance Services  
 Convention Orange Beach, AL  
[www.alambulance.org](http://www.alambulance.org)

**11/25-11/29** — Texas State EMS Conference Fort Worth, TX  
[WWW.TEXASEMSCONFERENCE.COM](http://WWW.TEXASEMSCONFERENCE.COM)

**12/1-12/03** — American Ambulance Association Trade Show Las Vegas, NV  
[WWW.THE-AAA.ORG](http://WWW.THE-AAA.ORG)

**12/11-12/12** — EMS Plus Conference, Bossier City, LA  
[weaver@bossiercity.org](mailto:weaver@bossiercity.org)

### FORD EXTENDED WARRANTY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

- Timing Chain (Gears or Belt)
- Turbocharger (factory Installed)
- Cylinder Head Gasket
- Crankcase Oil Cooler
- EGR Cooler
- Fuel Injection Pump
- Fuel Injection Pressure Regulator
- Fuel Injectors
- to \$100.00)
- Out of Fuel assistance
- And other items with certain restrictions and requirements—please read plan.

**As with every insurance policy you need to read this policy to make sure it is a smart buy.** There are restrictions and surely there are exemptions. We are sure running an engine without oil would not be a covered claim. From what we have seen and heard from everyone this would be something that we would have to seriously consider. Having this transferable policy (please confirm before buying) available should add value to your trade in. That would be subject to the unit having less than 200,000 miles on trade in.

This policy is called Ford ESP Diesel Engine CARE\* and is available from your Ford Dealer. I obtained my information from Olathe Ford. Olathe Ford is the largest ambulance chassis supplier in the country. If you own a Ford ambulance chances are it came through Olathe. If you have questions about this program please call Chuck Barnett at 800-880-8883.

The price for this policy with the ambulance surcharge is \$3005.00. Add \$100.00 if the unit has over 12,000 miles.

Both policies also include \$0 deductible and roadside assistance benefits.

Roadside benefits:

- Flat-tire change
- Battery Jump Starts
- Towing when vehicle is disabled (limited to 1 tow per disablement up

### AMBULANCE PARTS DOT COM

As the temperature starts to change, your units should be going through a thorough check to make sure the heating system is working. Every year we get a rush of calls wanting electric vacuum solenoids and vacuum operated heater valves. These items routinely fail after sitting up over the summer. It would be a good idea to run all your trucks through your shop and have your heater systems checked out. Do not forget to check your 110 volt shoreline system for your block heaters and 110 volt ceramic heaters. Our source for ceramic heaters routinely runs out each year around December.



Old issues of our newsletter are available at our website under news. Please feel free visit. [WWW.AMBULANCESOLUTIONS.COM](http://WWW.AMBULANCESOLUTIONS.COM)