



## **New Chairman, CEO Take Helm at Spartan Motors Annual Meeting; Company Adopts New Board-Selection Guidelines Co-founder, CEO & Chairman Retires After 27 Years**

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CHARLOTTE, Mich., June 12 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Spartan Motors, Inc. ([NASDAQ:SPAR](#)) today announced its new board chairman and new chief executive officer took their official posts at the Company's annual shareholder meeting held yesterday in Charlotte, Mich.

The Charlotte-based manufacturer of motorhome chassis, fire trucks and emergency-rescue vehicles said independent director David Wilson, a veteran automotive and heavy-truck executive, became the non-executive chairman of the Spartan Motors board of directors. John Szykiel, a 17-year veteran of the Company who had served as President and COO, filled the post of chief executive officer. Previously, the two positions had been held by George Szykiel, who co-founded the Company in 1975. Szykiel announced his retirement last year.

"George's contributions over the past 27 years have been immense, helping Spartan Motors grow from a one-garage start-up to an international company with a reputation for excellence and innovation," Wilson said. "The culture and principles he helped instill in Spartan Motors over the last quarter-century will carry forward with the board and executive management team -- all of whom have played an integral role in the Company's performance over the past 18 months."

Spartan also announced it has adopted new selection guidelines for prospective board members and is launching a search for a new independent director. The Company said it will seek out potential directors who display key traits, including integrity, strategic thinking and a strong financial background, among others.

Spartan Motors was one of the best-performing stocks on the NASDAQ Stock Market since 2001, more than tripling in value last year. The Company has continued its growth trend in 2002, trading recently at \$13.30 per share, a 108 percent increase since the first of this year.

Spartan Motors, Inc. (<http://www.spartanmotors.com/>) is a leading developer and manufacturer of custom chassis for motorhomes, fire trucks, ambulances and other specialty vehicles. The Company also owns three fire and rescue vehicle manufacturers, Luverne Fire Apparatus and Quality Manufacturing, and ambulance maker Road Rescue, Inc.

Source: Spartan Motors, Inc.

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