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#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): September 21, 1998

 ${\tt SPARTAN\ MOTORS,\ INC.}$  (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

MICHIGAN 0-13611 38-2078923 (State or Other Jurisdic- (Commission (IRS Employer tion of Incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

1000 REYNOLDS ROAD
CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN 48813
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(517) 543-6400 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

 ${\tt NOT\ APPLICABLE} \\ \hbox{(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)}$ 

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## ITEM 4. CHANGES IN REGISTRANT'S CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANT.

During 1998, the Company's management and Audit Committee obtained competitive proposals for audit services from a selected group of prominent accounting firms, including the Company's present principal accountants. On September 21, 1998, the Board of Directors of the Company approved the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's principal independent accountant for the fiscal year to begin on January 1, 1999.

The decisions to invite proposals and to select the proposal of Ernst & Young LLP were recommended by the Company's Audit Committee. These decisions were not to any degree attributable to any disagreement with Deloitte & Touche LLP on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, auditing scope or procedures or to any reportable events during the period of Deloitte & Touche LLP's engagement. The reports of Deloitte & Touche LLP on the Company's financial statements for the past two fiscal years did not contain an adverse opinion or a disclaimer of opinion and were not qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles.

In connection with the audits of the Company's financial statements for each of the two fiscal years ended December 31, 1997, and in

the subsequent interim periods, there were no disagreements with Deloitte & Touche LLP on any matters of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope and procedures which, if not resolved to the satisfaction of Deloitte & Touche LLP would have caused them to make reference to the matter in their report.

The Company has delivered a copy of this Form 8-K to Deloitte & Touche LLP. A letter to the Securities and Exchange Commission from Deloitte & Touche LLP stating that Deloitte & Touche LLP agrees with the above statement will be filed as an exhibit to this report.

- ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION, AND EXHIBITS.
- (c) The following document is filed as an exhibit to this report on Form  $8\text{-}\mathrm{K}\colon$ 
  - 16. Letter from Deloitte & Touche LLP regarding change in certifying accountant.

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### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: September 28, 1998 SPARTAN MOTORS, INC.

By /S/ RICHARD J. SCHALTER
Richard J. Schalter
Secretary, Treasurer and Chief
Financial Officer

# EXHIBIT INDEX

# EXHIBIT NUMBER DOCUMENT

Letter from Deloitte & Touche LLP regarding change in certifying accountant.

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

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Suite 800 Telephone: (517) 487-2251 One Michigan Avenue Facsimile: (517) 487-0404

120 North Washington Square Lansing, Michigan 48933-1681

September 23, 1998

Mr. Richard Schalter Chief Financial Officer Spartan Motors, Inc. Charlotte, Michigan

Dear Mr. Schalter:

This is to confirm that the client-auditor relationship between Spartan Motors, Inc. (Commission File No. 0-13611) and Deloitte & Touche LLP has ceased.

Yours truly,

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

cc: Office of the Chief Accountant
 SECPS Letter File
 Securities and Exchange Commission
 Mail Stop 9-5
 450 5th Street, N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20549

Mr. John Sztykiel, Chief Operating Officer

Mr. Charles Nihart, Chairperson of the Audit Committee