



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 9, 2012

[REDACTED]

NVS-216 mec
Ref. No. 10477662

Fresno, CA [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence concerning your company's model year (MY) 2007 and MY 2003 Volvo VNM trucks. Your letter was received by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation.

NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist. However, we cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

You state that the MY 2007 and MY 2003 Volvo VNM trucks were involved in separate head on collisions in which the air bags did not function. We have reviewed our database in an effort to identify whether a safety defect trend exists in MY 2007 and MY 2003 Volvo VNM trucks that causes the air bags not to deploy in a crash. At this time there is insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety defect investigation at this time. However, the information you provided has been entered into our database and will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention. For your information, the NHTSA investigation and recall process can be found on our web site at www.nhtsa.gov.

There are a number of factors that can affect whether an air bag will deploy in a given crash; e.g., the angle of impact, the speed of the other vehicle, and the amount of force absorbed by the other vehicle or object that is impacted. Only an expert in crash reconstruction can provide an educated opinion as to whether the air bag in a vehicle should have deployed in a specific crash.

Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, we would appreciate it if you would complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq or call the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be obtained at www.nhtsa.gov.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Reid". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "D".

Randy Reid, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement