



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20600

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

February 4, 2004

[REDACTED]
Pensacola, Fl [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This letter is a follow up to our telephone conversation of yesterday with regard to providing the fuel tank removed from your 1996 Volvo 850 identified by vehicle identification number YV1LS5541T [REDACTED]. The tank should be drained and flushed clean of all fuel or fuel residue (see enclosed) and shipped via FedEx using the enclosed pre-paid, self-addressed FedEx shipping label. FedEx informs me they will not ship the tank if it smells of fuel.

The Office of Defects Investigation of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) conducts investigations of potential safety defects in motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment. The purpose of these investigations is to determine whether there is a need for the NHTSA to order manufacturers to conduct safety defect notification and recall campaigns to reduce the potential for crashes, injuries, and deaths.

It is often difficult for us to obtain defective parts and I thank you very much for agreeing to provide the tank to us. It will be inspected and tested for leaks at the Vehicle Research and Test Center in East Liberty, Ohio, and all tests will be non-destructive. Please advise me if you would like to have the tank returned to you at the conclusion of the investigation, otherwise it will be disposed of. You can reach me on (800) 986-9768, ext. 65221 between 8:00am and 4:00pm Eastern Standard time, Monday through Friday.

It is the actions of responsible citizens like you that help the NHTSA identify problems in motor vehicles and items of motor vehicle equipment.

Thank you very much for your help and your interest in highway safety.

Sincerely,

John Abbott
Safety Defects Specialist
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement
NHTSA



DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE
888-DASH-2-DOT
888-327-4236

Attn: John Abbott
202-366-1767

ATA Dangerous Goods Regulations

5.0.2.13.4 Minimum Size

A package must be of such size that there is adequate space to affix all required markings and labels (see 7.0.1 and 7.2.0.1).

5.0.2.13.5 Empty Packagings

- △ 5.0.2.13.5.1 An empty packaging that has contained a dangerous substance must be treated in the same manner as is required by these Regulations for a package filled with that substance unless adequate measures have been taken to nullify any hazard.

5.0.2.13.5.2 Other than Class 7, a packaging which previously contained dangerous goods, must be identified, marked, labeled and placarded, as required for those dangerous goods, unless steps such as cleaning, purging of vapours or refilling with a non-dangerous substance are taken to nullify any hazard.

5.0.2.13.5.3 Before an empty packaging which had previously contained infectious substance is referred to the shipper, or sent elsewhere, it must be thoroughly disinfected or sterilized and any label or marking indicating that it had contained an infectious substance must be removed or obliterated.

Notes:

1. Purging and thorough flushing of the packaging with a neutralizing agent is an acceptable method of nullifying the hazard.
2. Packages having previously contained Class 7 Radioactive Material must comply with the provisions of 10.5.9.7.

5.0.2.14 Packagings for Liquids

5.0.2.14.1 Every packaging intended to contain liquids must successfully undergo a suitable leak-proofness test and be capable of meeting the appropriate test level indicated in 5.0.4.2.

- (a) before it is first used for transport;
- (b) after remanufacturing or reconditioning, before it is used for transport.

For this test, packagings need not have their own closures fitted.

The inner receptacle of composite packagings may be tested without the outer packaging provided the test results are not affected. This test is not necessary for inner packagings of combination packagings.

5.0.2.14.2 Packagings for liquids tested as prescribed in 5.0.4.2 and marked with the hydraulic test pressure must be filled only with a liquid having a vapour pressure:

- (a) such that the total gauge pressure in the packaging, i.e. the vapour pressure of the filling substance plus the partial pressure of air or other inert gases, less 100 kPa, at 55°C (130°F), determined on the basis of a maximum degree of filling in accordance with 5.0.2.6 and a filling temperature of 15°C (59°F), will not exceed two-thirds of the marked test pressure; or
- (b) at 50°C (122°F) less than four-sevenths of the sum of the marked test pressure plus 100 kPa; or

- (c) at 55°C (130°F) less than two-thirds of the marked test pressure plus 100 kPa (see 5.0.2.14.2(a)).

However, where the packaging is selected in accordance with 5.0.2.14.2(a) above the hydraulic test pressure must be 100 kPa or more for liquids in Packing Group III (see Division 5.1).

Notes:

1. The maximum vapour pressures in (b) refer to the basis of the formula. The marked test pressure refers to the aircraft altitude.
2. Table 5.0.A appearing under 5.0.2.9 refers to (c) above only, which means that the pressure must exceed 1.5 times the vapour pressure at 55°C (130°F) less 100 kPa. When, for test pressure for n-Decane is determined in accordance with 5.0.5.3.1, Method A, the minimum marked test pressure of 50 kPa applies.
3. Definitions for the packaging nomenclature are in Appendix A.
4. Details of packaging codes are given in Appendix B.

5.0.2.14.3 The closures of packagings containing liquid or diluted substances must be such that the liquid (water, solvent or plasticizer) does not leak during transport.

5.0.2.15 Air Eligibility Markings

Packages, including those used for limited quantities of dangerous goods, must be marked as prescribed in 5.0.2.15.1 only when the shipper has determined that the applicable requirements, particularly marking requirements that are only applicable to limited quantities (e.g. the relevant packing instruction requirements for differential test, requirements to provide specific markings and closure requirements).

5.0.3 Limited Quantities

5.0.3.1 Dangerous goods being shipped in limited quantities must be packed in accordance with 5.0.1 through 5.0.5 except 5.0.2.8, 5.0.2.9, 5.0.2.11(g) and 5.0.2.14.2.

5.0.3.2 When different dangerous goods are packed together in one outer packaging (see 5.0.2.11) of such dangerous goods must be as follows:

- (a) for classes other than Classes 2 and 3, the net quantity per package does not exceed the maximum net quantity per package for the relevant class, where "Q" is calculated using the formula:

$$Q = \frac{n_1}{M_1} + \frac{n_2}{M_2} + \frac{n_3}{M_3}$$

where n_1 , n_2 , etc. are the net quantities of the different dangerous goods and M_1 , M_2 , etc. are the maximum net quantities per package for dangerous goods according to Subchapter 5.0.2.15.1, Dangerous Goods, for the relevant classes; and

FedEx. USA Airbill Express **837619703080**

1 From: *Shipper's name*
 Date: **2-4-04** Sender's FedEx Account Number: **1508-3154-7**

Sender's Name: **John Abbott**

Company: **DOT-NHTSA-Defects Investigation**

Address: **400 7th Sts., S.W. Room 5326**

Washington DC 20590

2 Your Internal Billing Preference: **OPTIONAL**

3 To: Recipient's Name: **Russ Kirkbride** Phone: **(937) 666-4511**

Company: **VRTC/ U.S. DOT**

Address: **10820 State Route 347**

Address: **East Liberty OH 43319-0337**

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4a Express Package Services

FedEx Priority Overnight FedEx Standard Overnight FedEx First Overnight

FedEx 2Day FedEx Saver Service

4b Express Freight Services

FedEx 1Day Freight FedEx 2Day Freight FedEx 3Day Freight

5 Packaging

FedEx Envelope FedEx Pak Other

6 Special Handling

Fragile High Value Perishable Hazardous Live Animals Restricted Signature Required Signature Required - Adult Signature Required - Restricted Signature Required - Restricted (Over 21)

7 Payment Method

Cash Check Credit Card Debit Card Other

8 Release Signature

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John Abbott
 Vehicle Defects Investigator
 Vehicle Integrity Division

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202-368-4321
 Fax 202-368-1787
 jabbot@nhtsa.dot.gov

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