

York, Bruce (NHTSA)

From: York, Bruce (NHTSA)
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2009 12:52 PM
To: 'nasser.zamani@daimler.com'; Boyd, Richard (NHTSA)
Cc: david.cook@daimler.com; Long, Larry (NHTSA)
Subject: RE: FL-557 DIR - Rack & Pinion
Attachments: image001.jpg

Nasser,

After discussing the Rack and Pinion investigation with Dick and another investigator today, we have decided to put back the original question in the IR related to consumer complaints. Please include the following information when responding to the IR letter.

1. State the number of each of the following, received by Freightliner, or of which Freightliner is otherwise aware, which relate to the alleged defect in the subject vehicles.
 - a. Consumer complaints, including those from fleet operators;
 - b. Field reports, including dealer field reports;
 - c. Reports involving a crash, injury, or fatality, based on claims against the manufacturer involving a death or injury, notices received by the manufacturer alleging or proving that a death or injury was caused by a possible defect in a subject vehicle, property damage claims, consumer complaints, or field reports;
 - d. Third-party arbitration proceedings where Freightliner is or was a party to the arbitration; and,
 - e. Lawsuits, both pending and closed, in which Freightliner is or was a defendant or codefendant.

For subparts “a” through “e,” state the total number of each item (e.g., consumer complaints, field reports, etc.) separately for each model and model year. Multiple incidents involving the same vehicle are to be counted separately. Multiple reports of the same incident are also to be counted separately (i.e., a consumer complaint and a field report involving the same incident in which a crash occurred are to be counted as a crash report, a field report and a consumer complaint).

In addition, for items “c” through “e,” provide a summary description of the alleged problem and causal and contributing factors and Freightliners assessment of the problem, with a summary of the significant underlying facts and evidence. For items “d” and “e”, identify the parties to the action, as well as the caption, court, docket number, and date on which the complaint or other document initiating the action was filed.

2. Separately for each item (complaint, report, claim, notice, or matter) within the scope of your response to Request No. 2, state the following information:
 - a. Freightliners file number or other identifier used;
 - b. The category of the item, as identified in Request No. 2 (i.e., consumer complaint, field report, etc.);
 - c. Vehicle owner or fleet name (and fleet contact person), address, and telephone number;
 - d. Vehicle’s VIN;
 - e. Vehicle’s make, model and model year;
 - f. Vehicle’s mileage at time of incident;
 - g. Incident date;
 - h. Incident state;
 - i. Report date;
 - j. Whether a crash is alleged;
 - k. Whether property damage is alleged;

- l. Number of alleged injuries, if any;
- m. Number of alleged fatalities, if any;
- n. Whether the item is related to the alleged defect;
- o. Whether or not Freightliner received a subrogation claim regarding the incident (Y/N);
- p. Alleged cause of the failure;
- q. Complaint summary; and
- r. Consumer comments.

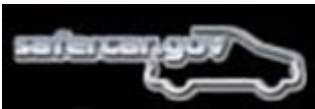
Provide this information in Microsoft Access 2000, or a compatible format, entitled "REQUEST NUMBER TWO DATA." See Enclosure 1, Data Collection Disc, for a pre-formatted table designed for this submission.

Thank You,
Bruce York

U.S. Department Of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
Office of Defects Investigation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590
Room W46-322

(202) 366-6938
(877) 536-8368 Ext. 66938
bruce.york@dot.gov

Report Vehicle Safety Defects!



www.safercar.gov

From: nasser.zamani@daimler.com [mailto:nasser.zamani@daimler.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2009 4:29 PM
To: Boyd, Richard (NHTSA)
Cc: York, Bruce (NHTSA); david.cook@daimler.com
Subject: RE: FL-557 DIR - Rack & Pinion

Mr. Boyd,

Thank you for your considerations.

Nasser Zamani, P.E.
Senior Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Affairs
Daimler Trucks North America LLC
503-745-6910 office
503-475-4260 Mobile

Richard.Boyd@dot.gov

To nasser.zamani@daimler.com, Bruce.York@dot.gov
cc david.cook@daimler.com

09/08/2009 08:24 AM

Mr. Zamani:

Thank you for your phone call last week and follow-up 573 letter concerning our investigation, PE09-040 – pertaining to rack and pinion problems on certain Freightliner tractors. In response to your email, we have decided that we would still like to obtain a greater understanding of the matter and therefore, I have attached a shortened information request. Please disregard the letter which you received Friday, September 4, 2009. We now consider that letter to be void.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Bruce York.

Sincerely,

Richard Boyd, Chief
Medium & Heavy Duty Vehicle Division
NHTSA/ODI

From: nasser.zamani@daimler.com [mailto:nasser.zamani@daimler.com]
Sent: Friday, September 04, 2009 7:46 PM
To: Boyd, Richard (NHTSA); York, Bruce (NHTSA)
Cc: david.cook@daimler.com; nasser.zamani@daimler.com
Subject: FL-557 DIR - Rack & Pinion

Messrs Boyd and York,

Daimler Trucks North America is voluntarily filing a Defect Information Report regarding Freightliner vehicles equipped with Rack and Pinion Steering system. Our decision to recall was finalized this morning. I have received an IR from ODI Faxed this afternoon regarding the same issue. I respectfully request your consideration for the closure of the IR if it meets your approval.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Best Regards,

Nasser Zamani

If you are not the intended addressee, please inform us immediately that you have received this e-mail in error, and delete it. We thank you for your cooperation.
[attachment "PE09-040IRFinalShort.pdf" deleted by Nasser Zamani/164/INT/EEC]

If you are not the intended addressee, please inform us immediately that you have received this e-mail in error, and delete it. We thank you for your cooperation.