



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 12-018  
**Date Opened:** 06/25/2012  
**Investigator:** Kyle Bowker  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** Air Brake Reservoir Bracket Fracture

**Date Closed:** 09/20/2012  
**Reviewer:** Bruce York-B

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA, FREIGHTLINER LLC  
**Products:** 2009-2012 Freightliner, Sterling and Western Star Trucks  
**Population:** 1,663

**Problem Description:** Alleged fracture of one or more air brake reservoir support brackets resulting in an unsecured reservoir. An unsecured reservoir may result in a loss of air pressure necessary for proper service brake application and reservoir separation from the vehicle.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	0	8	8
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Other*:</b>	0	134	134

\***Description of Other:** Warranty claims paid by the manufacturer to repair or replace subject air brake reservoir brackets.

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** This Preliminary Evaluation has been closed. The manufacturer has initiated Safety Recall 12V-405.

### Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received Early Warning Reporting (EWR) data from the manufacturer that indicated some number of subject vehicles had allegedly experienced a fracture of one or more support brackets resulting in an unsecured air brake reservoir. This could result in a loss of air pressure necessary for proper service brake application and a potential road hazard if the reservoir separates from the vehicle in operation.

By letter dated August 15, 2012, Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA) has notified ODI that it has initiated a safety recall (identified by NHTSA Recall No. 12V-405 and DTNA Recall No. FL-631) to address a safety defect in approximately 1,663 model year (MY) 2009 through 2012 Freightliner 114SD, Business Class M2, Cascadia, Coronado, Sterling 9500 and Western Star 4700 trucks manufactured from July 7, 2008 through December 15, 2011, originally equipped with a specific perpendicular oriented air brake reservoir support bracket (P/N 12-22981-000). To date ODI is unaware of any bracket failures that resulted in a complete separation of the reservoir from the vehicle.

Affected owners will be notified by DTNA beginning October 15, 2012 and affected vehicles will have the subject air brake reservoir support brackets replaced with a more robust bracket. Repairs will be performed by DTNA authorized service facilities. Copies of DTNA's reimbursement plan for pre-notification remedies will be submitted to ODI as a supplemental report when available.

Accordingly, this investigation is closed.