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To: Jennifer Timian (NHTSA)
Date: 03/27/2013

Ref: EQ12-011, Brake Pod from MGM

Mertz help just a conference call with the technical team at Halliburton in regards to the Brake Pod issue created with MGM making a design change. Halliburton is our customer that we build trailer chassis for and they complete into dedicated Oil and Gas trailers. Halliburton also dictates that these brake pods be used on their trailers. In this conference call they sited that a leak in the brake Pod is a common occurrence and will happen several times over the life of the trailer. When a leak happens the operator of the tractor will receive several warnings allowing the operator ample time to have repaired or pull over. They are not considering this issue a safety issue but they are considering it an earlier replacement and will work with MGM to cover cost. They also referenced a letter from Daimler to you dated March 11th, 2013 and they agree with their Engineering assessment.

Mertz agrees with Halliburton and does not want to pursue this as a safety issue.

Best Regards,
Roy Heath
Engineering Director, Mertz Manufacturing, LLC
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