

July 20, 2004

SENT VIA FACSIMILE (202) 366-7882 & E-MAIL

Attn: Mr. George Person

Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation (NEF-111)
Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Caterpillar C11/C13 Engines w/ Leece Neville Brushless Alternators
Kenworth Recall No.: 04KW3**

Dear Mr. Person:

On July 16, 2004, Kenworth Truck Company determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles described below. Kenworth is furnishing notification to NHTSA in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 "Defect and Noncompliance Reports."

Description of the Defect

A potential chaffing point may exist between a heat shield on the engine and the wiring for the alternator. The interference is only present with the combination of a Caterpillar C11/C13 engine and the optional Leece Neville brushless alternator which is longer than any other alternators installed by Kenworth.

Identification of Affected Vehicles

Based upon a search of manufacturing records, the following vehicles are involved:

Kenworth models W900, T800, and T600 manufactured between November 3, 2003 and June 14, 2004. Kenworth determined the recall population to comprise 15 vehicles in total.

Chronology of Events Leading to Recall

In early 2004, Kenworth Renton Plant informed Division Engineering that the subject alternator was difficult to install on C11/C13 engines and had limited clearance. Division Engineering instructed the plants at that time to rework the heat shield in order to gain adequate clearance for the installation. Later in May 2004, the issue was revisited in conjunction with field service. Further investigation and inspections of trucks in service verified the potential chaffing condition. Upon this discovery Kenworth initiated a change request to substitute the subject

alternators with a comparable alternator which provides the necessary clearance on all vehicles built on and after June 14, 2004. There have been no reported incidents in the field.

Description of Remedy

Kenworth will initiate a Safety Recall of all affected trucks where the recall repair will consist of changing the alternator to a brush-type alternator that is shorter in length and provides the necessary clearance to all surrounding components.

Reimbursement Prior to Recall

Refer to the general reimbursement plan submitted by PACCAR. The start date for the reimbursement period will be one year prior to issuing this notification, July 20, 2003. The end date for the reimbursement will be 10 days after the last mailing of the initial owner notification pursuant to 49 CFR 577.5.

Identification of Recall Schedule

Kenworth anticipates that the owner notification campaign will be initiated within 30 days. Kenworth's number for this campaign is "04KW3".

Very truly yours,



Kenneth R. Brownstein
Senior Counsel

KRB:ptg

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