



MITSUBISHI FUSO
TRUCK OF AMERICA, Inc.

2015 Center Square Road
Logan Twp., NJ 08065
(856) 467-4500
(856) 467-4665 Fax

September 24, 2004

04V-477
(4 pages)

Jonathan D. White, Chief, Defects and Recall Information Analysis Division
Office of Defects Investigation, Safety Assurance
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room 5219
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Safety Recall Notification on the Front Hub Bearing; Model Years: 2000-2005;
Models: FM617, FM657, FM61F, FM64F, FM65F

Dear Mr. White:

Pursuant to 49 CFR, Part 573, Mitsubishi Fuso Truck of America, Inc. (MFTA) herewith files a defect and noncompliance information report concerning the front hub bearing on certain 2000 through 2005 model year FM617, FM657, FM61F, FM64F and FM65F Mitsubishi Fuso trucks for all states. The contents of this report are arranged to follow the sequence set forth in Section 573.5

The Dealer Recall Information Bulletin and a sample of the letter that will be sent to each Mitsubishi Fuso truck owner affected by this recall will be forwarded to you upon completion.

Sincerely,

William P. Mohr
Director, Service Operations.
Mitsubishi Fuso Truck of America, Inc.
Phone: (856) 467-3917 Fax: (856) 467-4665

Enclosure: As stated

Defect and Noncompliance Information Report

1. The manufacturer's name:

Mitsubishi Fuso Truck & Bus Corporation (MFTBC), Japan

2. Identification of the vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment potentially containing the defect or non compliance:

Models	Model Year Range
FM617	2000-2004
FM657	2001-2004
FM61F	2005
FM64F	2005
FM65F	2005

- a) Inclusive dates of manufacture:

Models	Vehicle Production
FM617	March 7, 2000 through January 12, 2004
FM657	April 13, 2000 through December 24, 2003
FM61F	May 25, 2004 through August 31, 2004
FM64F	May 25, 2004 through August 19, 2004
FM65F	May 26, 2004 through September 2, 2004

- b) GVWR or class of truck:

Models	GVWR	Class
FM617	25,995 lbs	6
	30,000 lbs	7
FM657	32,900 lbs	7
FM61F	25,995 lbs	6
FM64F	25,995 lbs	6
FM65F	32,900 lbs	7

- c) Names of the components:

Front wheel hub outer bearing (MH043127 [F060T], MH043140 [F070T]), Front wheel hub Inner bearing (MH043128 [F060T], MH043082 [F070T]) and Hub oil seal (MH034088)

3. The total number of vehicles or items of equipment potentially containing the defect or noncompliance, and where available, the number of vehicles or items of equipment in each group identified pursuant to paragraph (c) (2) of the section:

Models	Number of Vehicles
00-04 FM617	2,189
01-04 FM657	323
05 FM61F	277
05 FM64F	45
05 FM65F	58
Total	2892

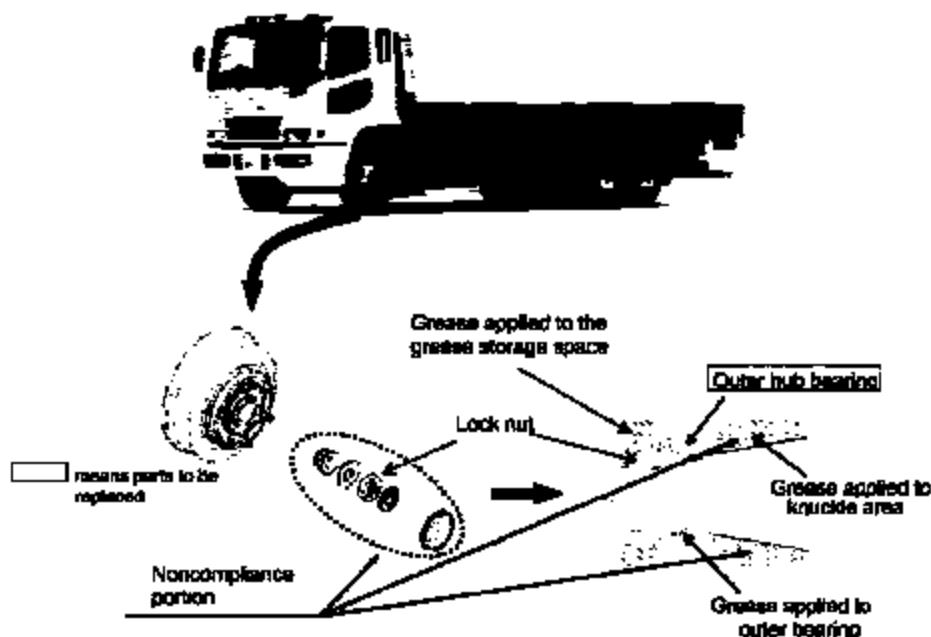
Please note: This is total number of vehicles in the U.S. and Canada markets. The number of affected models in each separate market must still be determined.

4. The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment specified pursuant to paragraph (c) (2) of the section estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

Unknown

6. A description of the defect or noncompliance, including both a brief summary and a detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of the nature and physical location (if applicable) of the defect or noncompliance:

On affected vehicles using an F060T or F070T front axle, the front wheel hub outer bearing lock nut may have been improperly tightened during initial assembly, and an insufficient amount of grease may have been applied to the outer bearing. These conditions could result in the outer bearing generating excessive heat and/or breaking, causing the vehicle to become disabled. In the worst case, the excessive heat could cause a fire.



6. In the case of defect, a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their date of receipt:

On September 21, 2004, MFTBC notified MFTA that they had determined that a defect related to motor vehicle safety existed and instructed MFTA to perform a safety recall.

After deliberate study of failed sample parts, MFTBC determined that the cause of failure was improper tightening of the front wheel hub outer bearing lock nut during initial assembly, and an insufficient amount of grease application to the outer bearing. These conditions could result in the outer bearing generating excessive heat and/or breaking, causing the vehicle to become disabled. In the worst case, the excessive heat could cause a fire.

The summary report of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information MFTA has received, with their date of receipt will be forwarded by September 10, 2004.

7. In the case of noncompliance, the test results or other data on the basis of which the manufacturer determined the existence of the noncompliance:

Not applicable.

8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance:

Remove the front wheel hub. Inspect the inner and outer front wheel hub bearings. Replace any bearing with signs of damage. Reuse any bearing that has no signs of damage. Properly lubricate the front hub and properly torque the front wheel hub outer bearing lock nut upon reassembly.

MFTA intends to instruct its Dealer body to initiate a safety recall campaign as soon as the parts and notification become available.

MFTA will inform NHTSA of the campaign schedule as soon as it has been determined.

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer or purchaser:

MFTA will provide NHTSA with a final copy of all related documents when they have been completed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,



William P. Mohr
Director, Service Operations
Mitsubishi Fuso Truck of America, Inc.
Phone: (856) 467-3917 Fax: (856) 467-4665

c: K. Idota (MFTBC)
T. Kawai (MFTBC)
H. Imamura (MFTA)