



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

April 12, 2005

TIMOTHY BLUBAUGH
FREIGHTLINER LLC
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE
PORTLAND OR 97217

NVS-215
05V-138

Subject: FMVSS 120/TIRE INFORMATION RATING

Dear MR. BLUBAUGH:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records, as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

Makes/Models/Model Years:
FREIGHTLINER/MT-45/2000-2004

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-138

Recall Date: March 24, 2005

Components:
EQUIPMENT:OTHER:LABELS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 500

Summary:
CERTAIN VAN CHASSIS WITH SINGLE REAR TIRES FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 120, "TIRE SELECTION AND RIMS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES OTHER THAN PASSENGER CARS." THE REAR TIRE RATING WAS INCORRECTLY ENTERED IN THE GAWR/GVWR CALCULATION PROGRAM ON CERTAIN SINGLE REAR TIRES. THE REAR GAWR AND GVWR WILL BE INCORRECT WHEN THE GAWR IS LIMITED BY THE TIRE CAPACITY ON CHASSIS WITH THESE TIRES.

Consequence:
THIS COULD CAUSE PREMATURE TIRE TREAD WEAR OR TIRE FAILURE DURING NORMAL DRIVING WHICH COULD CAUSE A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL MAIL NEW CHASSIS IDENTIFICATION LABELS WITH THE CORRECT GAWR, GVWR, AND TIRE INFORMATION. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON MAY 15, 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 1-800-547-0712.

Notes:

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-444. CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

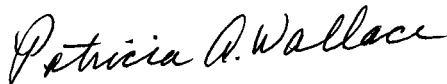
Please provide us with a date of when the manufacturer became aware of the recall.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, the recall is expected to begin on May 15, 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by July 30, 2005.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov or delia.lopez@nhtsa.dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



for George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division