



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

November 29, 2005

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

NVS-215
05V-541

Subject: LOWER STEERING SHAFT

Dear MR. BLUBAUGH:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect 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/BUSINESS CLASS M2/2005-2006

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-541

Mfg's Report Date: November 16, 2005

Components: STEERING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 198

Summary:

ON CERTAIN TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH FONTAINE MODIFICATION RIGHT HAND STEERING CONTROL AND EQUIPPED WITH SIT DOWN DUAL DRIVE CONVERSIONS, THE PINCH BOLT THAT SECURES THE LOWER STEERING SHIAFT CONNECTION TO THE LH MITER BOX MAY HAVE BEEN IMPROPERLY TORQUED CAUSING THE BOLTS TO FALL OUT.

Consequence:

THIS MAY CAUSE A LOSS OF STEERING CONTROL AND A CRASH COULD OCCUR WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND REPLACE THE LOWER STEERING SHAFT PINCH BOLT AT THE CONNECTION AND BOLTS ON THE STEERING CROSS SHAFT WILL BE REPLACED. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON JANUARY 9, 2006. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 1-800-547-0712.

Notes:

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-464. CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

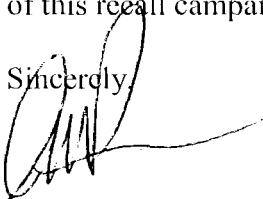
The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

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, owner notification is expected to begin on January 9, 2006. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by April 30, 2006.

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,



George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement