



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

December 8, 2005

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

NVS-215
05V-551

Subject: FRONT AXLE I-BEAM

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 M2/2006
FREIGHTLINER/CENTURY/2006
FREIGHTLINER/COLUMBIA/2006
FREIGHTLINER/CORONADO/2006
STERLING/ACTERRA/2006
STERLING/AT/2006
STERLING/LT/2006

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-551

Mfg's Report Date: November 17, 2005

Components: POWER TRAIN:AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 500

Summary:

ON CERTAIN TRUCKS AND MOTOR HOME CHASSIS, THE TOP FLANGE OF THE FRONT AXLE I-BEAM MAY FATIGUE AND FRACTURE.

Consequence:

DRIVER MAY EXPERIENCE LOSS CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE AND A CRASH COULD OCCUR WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND REPLACE THE FRONT AXLE ASSEMBLY. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON JANUARY 10, 2006. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 1-800-547-0712.

Notes:

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-467. 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).

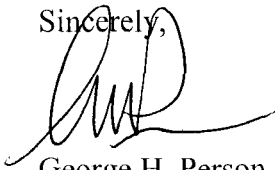
The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

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 10, 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