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January 31, 2005

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S. W.  
Washington, DC 20590

05V-031  
(2 pages)

The following information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a defect relating to motor vehicle safety.

573.6(c)(1)  
Autocar, LLC  
P.O. Box 190  
Hagerstown, IN 47346-0190

573.6(c)(2)  
Autocar WX and WXLL model, heavy-duty class 8 vehicles manufactured between July 2004 and October 2004.

Identified vehicles fitted with ArvinMeritor FG941 and FG943 front axles.

573.6(c)(3)  
There are Five (5) vehicles with serial numbers in the range 201038 through 201516.

573.6(c)(4)  
Percentage of vehicles expected to contain the suspect defect is unknown.

573.6(c)(5)  
Urresko, s.a. de c.v. has notified ArvinMeritor that Urresko has determined a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain tie rod clamps that were shipped to ArvinMeritor between July 1, 2004 and August 31, 2004.

**Description of Defect:**

An identifiable batch of tie rod assembly clamps was heat-treated. The heat-treating of tie rod assembly clamps is outside of the normal process for manufacturing clamps. The heat treat process created a surface hardness

that could lead to fracture of the clamp. The defect was identified, to date, by the cracking of one such clamp.

573.6 (c)(6)

- 1/18/05 Letter received from ArvinMeritor advising Autocar of ArvinMeritor Campaign Number: C5AA NHTSA: 04E-088
- 1/21/05 A search was conducted on the ArvinMeritor axle serial numbers and corresponding Autocar VIN numbers were determined.
- 1/25/04 Autocar, LLC has determined that the condition described in this notification constitutes a product defect and that this defect is safety related.

573.6(c)(7)  
Not applicable

573.6(c)(8)

ArvinMeritor will initiate a voluntary owner notification and recall based on the vehicle population found with failing tie rod assembly clamps.

The number which Autocar, LLC, has assigned to this recall for tracking purposes is **A - 0502**.

Very Truly Yours  
**AUTOCAR, LLC**



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Stan R. Gornick, P. Eng.  
Manager, Compliance