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February 15, 2005

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

05U-078

The following information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a potential noncompliance with a Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard.

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

573.6(c)(2)
Model Year 2005 Autocar WX, WRX and WXLL model, heavy-duty class 8 vehicles, fitted with ArvinMeritor 5 1/2" Auto Slack adjusters with a 1/4" diameter hole drilled in the housing lever for calibration purposes and a date code range from 04287 through 04355 (October 14, 2004 through December 21, 2004) shown on the manufacturer's label.

Please note that ArvinMeritor has not yet advised Autocar when the suspect product was shipped to Autocar. Therefore, on an interim basis, Autocar is relying on the date of October 14, 2004 as the earliest date Autocar could have received product and installed them on its vehicles. Autocar is attempting to determine the precise build-date range of the affected vehicles and will advise NHTSA accordingly when this information becomes available.

573.6(c)(3)
Based upon the October 14, 2004 build date (which, as noted, may change to a later date when more information becomes available), a maximum of three hundred and eight (308) vehicles may possibly contain suspect slack adjusters. The serial number range for these vehicles is 200941 through 201781.

573.6(c)(4)
The percentage of Autocar vehicles expected to contain the suspect noncompliance is unknown. However, ArvinMeritor reported to NHTSA that 187 slack adjusters out of a population of 58,769 potentially exhibit the nonconformance.

573.6(c)(5)

Autocar has been advised by its supplier, ArvinMeritor, that certain 5 ½" auto slack adjusters manufactured by ArvinMeritor may not properly auto adjust as they were designed to do. This problem could cause a noncompliance with FMVSS 121 in vehicles in which they are installed.

Upon learning of this problem, Autocar quarantined all 5½" slack adjusters with a ¼" calibration hole within the date range specified. In addition, all trucks on the assembly line and in the shipping yard were inspected and had slack adjusters replaced if they were suspect. Since ArvinMeritor's notification to Autocar, no trucks with the suspect slack adjusters have been shipped from our factory.

573.6 (c)(6)
Not applicable

573.6(c)(7)
Any test reports and conclusions are in the possession of ArvinMeritor, and have not been supplied to Autocar at this time.

573.6(c)(8)
Unknown at this time. Autocar will advise NHTSA accordingly when this information becomes available.

The number which Autocar, LLC, has assigned to this recall for tracking purposes is **A - 0503**.

Very Truly Yours
AUTOCAR, LLC



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