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Subject: New Safety Recall (SC0295, Steering Shaft Pinch Bolt Torque)

OFFICE OF ASPECTS
OPERATION

Attention:

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

Submitted via Email to Patricia Wallace.

05V-118
(3 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)

Mack Trucks, Inc.
P. O. Box M
Allentown, PA 18105-5000

573.6(c)(2)

Mack CT, CV, DM, and RB Model, Heavy-Duty Class 8 vehicles manufactured on December 10, 13, and 14 2004 at the Macungie manufacturing facility.

During the days stated above, a manufacturing process was not followed that resulted in the potential safety defect. All vehicles manufactured on these dates at the Macungie facility will be addressed.

573.6(c)(3)

One hundred twenty-seven (127) vehicles potentially contain the defect.

573.6(c)(4)

The percentage of the 127 vehicles expected to contain the defect is unknown.

573.6(c)(5)

There exists the potential that the lower and upper steering shaft pinch bolts are below the design specified torque on vehicles built at Macungie during the period stated in section 573.6(c)(2). As a result of this issue, the steering shaft could possibly come loose which could lead to a sudden loss of control of the vehicle.



573.6 (c)(6)

Chronology of principle events that were the basis for the determination:

- 2/25/05 Dealer reported bolt in steering shaft missing on vehicle. Reference service Case (1-69753653)
- 2/25/05 Issue sent to manufacturing for root cause investigation.
- 3/1/05 Manufacturing responded that a “fill-in employee” did not follow the process for verification of bolt installation and torque and that other vehicles manufactured during the days of Dec. 10, 13, and 14 may have either missing bolts or bolts that are not torqued to the specified value.
- 3/8/05 Issue submitted to Regulatory Compliance Administrator for consideration.
- 3/8/05 Service Alert mailed to dealers.
- 3/17/05 Investigation submitted to the Product Regulatory Compliance Committee for a recommendation.
- 3/28/05 Mack Trucks decided that the condition described in this notification constitutes a defect and that such defect is safety related.
- 3/28/05 NHTSA notified that Mack Trucks would initiate a voluntary safety recall.

573.6(c)(7)

Not applicable

573.6(c)(8)

Mack Trucks, Inc. will initiate a voluntary owner notification, and recall all 127 vehicles.

The recall repair will consist of verifying the torque at the suspect joints.

Reimbursement for cost incurred by the owner for “prenotification remedies” will be addressed on a case-by-case basis according to the “General Plan for Reimbursement of Pre-notification Remedies” which was published December 8th, 2004.

The number, which has been assigned to this recall by Mack Trucks, Inc., is **SC0295**.



The recall is tentatively scheduled to commence within 30 working days from the date of this notification. Advance copies of the Owner Notification and Dealer Bulletins will be submitted to NHTSA for review and approval prior to release to the owners and dealers.

If there are any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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