

April 20, 2005

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

05 V-164
(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, WXR and WXLL model, heavy-duty class 8 vehicles manufactured between January 2004 and November 2004. Identified vehicles are fitted with Neway AD Series suspensions.

The suspensions in question were manufactured by:

Holland USA Inc.
1950 Industrial Blvd.
PO Box 425
Muskegon, MI 49443-0425
Ph: 231-773-3271

573.6(c)(3)
There are seventeen (17) vehicles with serial numbers in the range 200302 through 201564.

573.6(c)(4)
Percentage of vehicles expected to contain the suspect defect is 25%.

573.6(c)(5)
Holland USA sent a letter to Autocar advising that certain Neway AD Series suspensions had transverse beam castings that were not made to specification and may fracture under normal loads. If a casting breaks when the vehicle is traveling on a roadway there is the potential for pieces of the casting to become projectiles and the suspension's transverse beam may drop down low enough to contact the road surface causing sparks that could potentially ignite a fire.

Description of Defect:

The foundry supplying the castings either did not properly cast the metal or properly heat treat it to give it the correct chemical and physical properties per Holland's specifications.

573.6 (c)(6)

4/19/05 Letter received from Holland USA advising Autocar of a pending Safety Related Recall.

A search was conducted on the identified Holland USA P/N's within the date ranges specified and corresponding Autocar VIN numbers were determined.

4/20/05 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)

Autocar will initiate a voluntary owner notification and recall based on the vehicle population found with suspensions manufactured within the date ranges specified.

Holland's letter to Autocar indicated that they will not be mailing us the inspection criteria and repair procedures until May 30, 2005. Based on this, I would estimate that our paperwork to the dealers and owners will not take place until June 3, 2005 for the dealers and June 9, 2005 for the Owner letter.

The number which Autocar, LLC, has assigned to this recall for tracking purposes is **A - 0505**.

Very Truly Yours
AUTOCAR, LLC



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