



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION
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TRUCK GROUP

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

April 28, 2005

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

05V-188
(3 pages)

Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report

Pursuant to Part 573.6 (c) (1), this Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report is submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration by **International Truck and Engine Corporation**.

(1) IDENTIFICATION OF VEHICLES [Part 573.6 (c)(2)]

- Vehicle Models Involved:
 - MY 2002 thru 2006
 - 7400, 7500, 7600, 7700, 8500 and 8600 models
- Vehicle Manufacturing Dates:
 - 10/10/2001 thru 3/21/2005
- Other Identification Necessary to Describe Vehicles:
 - Vehicles with air operated fifth wheel slides and an MSVA 7-pack accessory controller.

(2) COMPONENT MANUFACTURER [Part 573.6 (c)(2)(iv)]

- This report does not relate to a component supplied by a manufacturer other than International Truck and Engine Corporation.

(3) VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED [Part 573.6 (c)(3)]

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VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED (continued)

<i>Model</i>	<i>U.S. Quantity</i>	<i>Canadian Quantity</i>	<i>Mexico Quantity</i>	<i>Export Quantity</i>
7400 4x2	0	1	0	0
7400 6x4	1	1	0	0
7500 6x4	0	2	0	0
7600 4x2	1	1	0	0
7600 6x4	169	17	0	24
8500 4x2	1	2	0	0
8500 6x4	20	21	0	2
8600 4x2	8	2	0	0
8600 6x4	4,416	582	1	1
Grand Totals	4,616	629	1	27

(4) *PERCENTAGE OF VEHICLES ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(4)]*

- All of the vehicles in the suspect population are estimated to contain the defect.

(5) *DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(5)]*

- The electrically controlled MSVA 7-pack can allow water to contaminate its circuit board possibly resulting in inadvertent operation of the fifth wheel slide control.
- If the fifth wheel slide control actuates while the vehicle is in transit, momentum from the trailer can cause the fifth wheel to slide without input from the driver, which may result in a **vehicle crash without warning** possibly resulting in **property damage, personal injury or death**.

(6) *CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF A SAFETY DEFECT or TEST RESULTS THAT LED TO DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE [Part 573.6 (c)(6)/(7)]*

- 1/19/2005 International Compliance first made aware of potential for fifth wheel to slide without driver input based on customer field complaint.
- 2/10/2005 International met to discuss the cause of the inadvertent fifth wheel sliding. It was determined that corrosion in the electrically controlled MSVA 7-pack base could be a possible cause.
- 2/24/2005 International opened a formal internal investigation to determine appropriate containment actions, all potential causes, and the extent of the issue
- 3/7/2005 Reviewed case files opened as a result of field reports regarding an improper functioning of the MSVA 7-pack. Review of all files found 4 incidences where inadvertent operation of at least one MSVA 7-pack solenoid was reported.
- 3/15/2005 Performed lab tests to determine cause of inadvertent activation of the MSVA 7-pack.

- 3/21/2005 All containment actions implemented at assembly plants which included relocating the module to a less severe environment, adding a mylar seal to the unused MSVA 7-pack port locations, and conformal coating of the circuit boards in the MSVA 7-pack base module.
- 3/28/2005 Conducted vehicle search to determine the extent of the suspect population.
- 4/12/2005 Received results of the lab tests conducted on the MSVA 7-pack which indicated the possibility that a saltwater short could fall into the problematic resistance range.
- 4/27/2005 International declared a safety recall.

(7) *PROGRAM TO REMEDY DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)]*

- The 8600 model suspect vehicles will have the MSVA 7-pack relocated to a less water intensive environment. A new MVSA 7-pack base, that has been improved to prevent water intrusion, and all air accessory solenoids will replace the existing parts
- All other suspect vehicle models, which already have the MVSA 7-pack in a less water intensive environment, will have the new 7-pack base and solenoids replaced.

(8) *PLAN FOR REIMBURSEMENT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]*

- Some of the vehicles in this recall fall outside the warranty period; therefore, our plan for reimbursement of pre-notification remedies, on file and dated 2/6/2003 does apply and instructions will be included in the customer notification.

(9) *SCHEDULE FOR RECALL NOTIFICATION [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]*

- Notify International Dealers by: July 1, 2005
- Notify International Customers by: July 8, 2005

(10) *INTERNATIONAL RECALL NUMBER [Part 573.6 (c)(11)]*

- 05511 (NHTSA number not assigned yet)

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (260) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,



R. L. Van Laar

Compliance Manager

INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION