



05 V-313
(3 pages)

July 6, 2005

Subject: New Safety Recall (SC0296, CHN Slack Adjuster, Draglink Interference)

Attention:

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

Submitted via Email to Patricia Wallace.

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 CHN, Heavy-Duty Class 8 vehicles manufactured with the FXL axle, and Meritor 16.5 x 5 Brakes from July 2004 through February 2005.

573.6(c)(3)

Three hundred and thirty three (333) (320 of the 333 are domiciled in the US) vehicles are affected by the recall.

573.6(c)(4)

The percentage of the 333 vehicles expected to contain the defect is unknown.

573.6(c)(5)

There exists the potential that the draglink may contact the brake slack adjuster during full wheel cut and articulation of the chassis. If this occurs, the slack adjuster may be damaged to a point where brake performance is compromised, which may result in a vehicle crash.



573.6 (c)(6)

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

1/19/05	Manufacturing observed vehicle with interference between draglink and slack adjuster.
1/20/05	Product Development confirmed interference.
4/25/05	Customer Vehicles identified.
5/2/05	Regulatory Compliance Department opens investigation.
7/6/05	Mack Trucks decided that the condition described in this notification constitutes a defect and that such defect is safety related.
7/6/05	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 333 vehicles.

The repair will consist of replacing the brake assemblies on the front axle.

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 **SC0296**.

A Safety Alert that will be distributed on or before July 15, 2005 will inform the dealers. The Owner letters will be mailed on or before August 8th 2005.

Advance copies of the Owner Notification will be submitted to NHTSA for review and approval prior to release to the owners.



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

Sincerely,

Timothy L. LaFon
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