



July 28, 2005

05V-349
(6 pages)

Subject: New Safety Recall (SC0303, Pitman Arm Torque)
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)

Certain Mack CV and DM model vehicles manufactured from April 11, 2005 through April 13, 2005.

Model Year – 2006.

573.6(c)(3)

Twenty-three (all 23 are domiciled in the US) vehicles are affected by the recall.

573.6(c)(4)

The percentage of the twenty-three vehicles expected to contain the defect is unknown.

573.6(c)(5)

There exists the potential that the bolt that attaches the pitman arm to the steering gear may be under the design specified torque. This defect may affect the performance of the steering, which may result in a vehicle crash.

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
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573.6 (c)(6)

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

- 4/15/05 Manufacturing determined that a torque tool was out of specification. Vehicles at manufacturing facility were inspected and repaired as required. It was determined that twenty-three (23) vehicles were released to dealers/owners that potentially contain a bolt that is under the design specified torque.
- 6/6/05 Regulatory Compliance Department contacted. Investigation opened.
- 6/28/05 Safety Recall Alert released to dealers instructing them to contact customers who own the suspect vehicles to make arrangements to re-torque bolt.
- 7/22/05 Mack Trucks Inc. decided that the condition described in this notification constitutes a defect and that such defect is safety related.
- 7/28/05 NHTSA notified that Mack Trucks Inc. 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 23 vehicles.

The repair will consist of checking the torque on the bolt that attaches the pitman arm to the steering gear.

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 **SC0303**.

A Safety Recall Alert was released to dealers on June 28th 2005, which informed the dealer to contact customers. Five (5) of the twenty-three (23) vehicles have been corrected. Owner letters will be mailed to the remaining owners of the vehicles not corrected on or before August 5th, 2005.

Advance copies of the owner letters 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy L. LaFon". A horizontal line extends from the end of the signature across the page.

Timothy L. LaFon
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