



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION
3033 WAYNE TRACE, FORT WAYNE, IN 46806-3968

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2005 OCT -4 A 8:06

TRUCK GROUP

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

September 30, 2005

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

05V-449
(3 pages)

Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report (REFERENCE 05E-055)

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 2006: 5600i, 7300 and 7600 models
- Vehicle Manufacturing Dates:
 - 6/14/2005 thru 6/16/2005
- Other Identification Necessary to Describe Vehicles:
 - Vehicles with ArvinMeritor Series 145 and 160 rear drive axles containing spindles heat treated by Bodycote Thermal Processing, Inc.

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

- This report does relate to a component supplied by a manufacturer other than International Truck and Engine Corporation.

- The contact information is as follows:

Niran Audimoolam
Project Manager, Product Safety and Compliance
ArvinMeritor, Inc.
2135 West Maple Road
Troy, MI 48084-7186
Phone: 248-435-8793

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

<i>Model</i>	<i>U.S. Quantity</i>	<i>Export Quantity</i>
5600i	1	0
7300 4X2	1	0
7600 6X4	2	3
Grand Totals	4	3

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

- None of the vehicles in the suspect population are estimated to contain the defect, however all will be inspected.

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

- The suspect spindles were incorrectly heat treated, which negatively affected the microstructure of the metal. Such a condition lessens the overall structural integrity of the spindles and could result in their fracture.
- If the spindle fractures while the vehicle is in motion it may cause wheel separation, which could result in a vehicle crash 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)]*

- 6/28/2005 International Compliance notified that ArvinMeritor had arrived at our Garland, Texas manufacturing facility to begin inspecting suspect vehicles.
- 6/28/2005 to 9/6/2005 Inspections were conducted at the plant and at dealers to determine the extent of the population
- 9/6/2005 ArvinMeritor informs International that they have filed a NHTSA defect notice (Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report, Pursuant to Part 573.6 [c] [1]).
- 9/15/2005 International received ArvinMeritor's Corrective Action Report which details the steps they have taken to correct the issue.
- 9/22/2005 International conducts a search to determine the extent of the suspect population.
- 9/28/2005 International declares a safety recall.

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

- Suspect vehicles will be inspected. If the spindles are found to have date codes of B5129, B5130 or B5131, the axle will be replaced.

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

- None 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 not apply and instructions will not be included in the customer notification.

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

- Notify International Dealers by: October 7, 2005
- Notify International Customers by: October 14, 2005

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

- 05520 (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