

FREIGHTLINER®
LLC

A DaimlerChrysler Company

RECEIVED
NVS-215

2005 OCT -5 A 9:06

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Timothy A. Blubaugh
Director
Government Technical Affairs

Freightliner LLC
4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland, OR 97217-7699
503.745.5219 Telephone
503.745.6800 Facsimile
TimothyBlubaugh@Freightliner.com

September 23, 2005

Ron Medford
Sr. Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

05V-453
(2 pages)

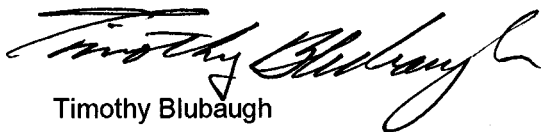
Re: Defect Information Report FL-462, Fuel Line Routing

Mr. Medford:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Freightliner LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 600 Western Star 4900 and 6900 Constellation trucks manufactured August 9, 2001 through June 2, 2005 with a defect in the routing of an under cab fuel line.

Attached is Freightliner's Defect Information Report. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Timothy Blubaugh

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
DOSH, Legal Unit
10th Floor
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Enclosure

Certified Mail Article Number:

7003 2260 0001 3403 5800



A DaimlerChrysler Company

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

September 23, 2005

(c)(1) **Manufacturer:** Freightliner LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219

Brands: Western Star

(c)(2) **Vehicles identification:**

Model(s) affected: Western Star 4900 and 6900 Constellation

Manufacture Dates: August 9, 2001 through June 2, 2005

Basis for determining population: Vehicles built with an optional battery location and dual suction/return fuel lines

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

(c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 600

(c)(4) **Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** 100%

(c)(5) **Description of the defect:** On some trucks fitted with optional in-cab batteries, the dual suction/return lines may contact the cab power harness resulting in chafe through and a potential fire hazard.

(c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** In June 2005, a Western Star dealer reported a small fire that was attributed to abrasion between this fuel line and the cab power harness. The dealer also discovered chafing of the fuel line and harness on a similar truck. A second small fire was reported by another dealer, as well as contact of the fuel line with the harness on others. The issue is attributed to improper clamping and/or routing of the fuel line.

(c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:**

(c)(8) **Remedial program:** Repairs will be performed by Freightliner dealerships and Direct Warranty customers. The fuel line will be rerouted and secured.

Estimated Owner Notification Date: Customer notification will be by first class mail using Freightliner records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately November 25, 2005.

Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c) (9) **Communications sent to dealers and owners:** Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c) (10) **Copy of proposed owner notification letter:** A draft will be sent for ODI review when available.

(c) (11) **Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-462