

FREIGHTLINER[®]
LLC

A DaimlerChrysler Company

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OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

OSV-468
(2 pgs.)

Timothy A. Blubaugh
Director
Government Technical Affairs

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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

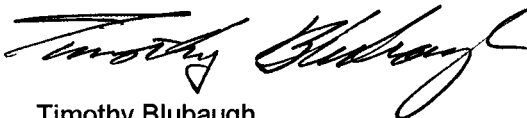
Re: Defect Information Report FL- 461, Bosch 305 Park Brake

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 500 Thomas C2 school; Buses and 3,500 M2 Business Class trucks manufactured approximately June 2004 through March 2005 with a defect in the park brake.

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 5794



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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: Freightliner Trucks; Thomas Built Buses

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: Freightliner M2 Business Class, Thomas C2 School Bus

Manufacture Dates: Approximately June, 2004 through March, 2005

Basis for determining population: Vehicles equipped with the Bosch 305 Park Brake

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Robert Bosch Corporation
2800 South 25th Avenue
Broadview, IL 60155-4594

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 3,350 M2 and 500 C2

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

(c)(5) Description of the defect: The anchor/pivot bolt supplied with the brake is defective and could fatigue fracture prematurely, resulting in the brake failing to apply.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: Bosch reported to Freightliner in late June, 2005 that an incorrect coating had been used on the anchor/pivot bolt which causes insufficient clamp load. Fatigue cycle tests by Bosch show the bolt to fracture prematurely. There have been no field failures or incidences.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: n/a

(c)(8) Remedial program: Repairs will be performed by Freightliner dealerships and Direct Warranty customers. Vehicles will be inspected and the anchor bolt replaced on those with a suspect Julian date code

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 20, 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-461