



November 10, 2005

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FILED
DEFACTS INVESTIGATION

Subject:

**New Safety Recall
SC0309, MR/LE Fuel Tank Mounting**

Attention:

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

Submitted via Email to Patricia Wallace.

05V-524
3 pages

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 LE and MR model vehicles manufactured from September 2003 through September 2005.

The selection of vehicles was based on specific fuel tank configurations.

Model Year

LE – 2004, 2005, 2006
MR – 2004, 2005, 2006

573.6(c)(3)

Four thousand five hundred forty-five (4,545) vehicles are affected by the recall.

Note: Four thousand four hundred eighty-two (4,482) are domiciled in the US.

573.6(c)(4)

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



573.6(c)(5)

There exists the potential that the bolts attaching the fuel tank mounting brackets to the frame may have insufficient torque and therefore may result in premature failure of the fuel tank mounting.

573.6 (c)(6)

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

8/4/05	Received Customer Complaint alleging premature failure of fuel tank mounting brackets.
8/10/05	Investigation opened by Product Reliability.
8/29/05	Review of fuel tank mountings on new product at dealer suggests insufficient torque. Manufacturing facility contacted to ask further sampling of vehicles.
9/9/05	Sampling performed indicates insufficient torque in some cases. Stop delivery issued.
9/9/05	Regulatory Affairs group contacted about potential safety defect. Investigation opened.
9/15/05	Corrective action implemented at factory.
10/26/05	Regulatory Affairs group published conclusions of defect investigation. Recommend safety recall.
11/02/05	Mack Trucks decided that the condition described in this notification constitutes a defect and that such defect is safety related.
11/10/05	NHTSA notified that Mack Trucks would initiate a voluntary safety recall.

Note: Warranty Claim information. There are eleven warranty cases and five customer complaints related to this recall with receipt dates ranging from August 1, 2000 through August 4, 2005.

573.6(c)(7)

Not applicable



573.6(c)(8)

The repair will consist of replacing the fuel tank bracket mounting bolts.

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.

A Safety Recall Alert will be released to dealers on or before November 17, 2005, which informs the dealer of the recall. Owner letters are tentatively scheduled to be mailed on January 3, 2006.

573.6(c)(9)

A representative copy of all notices and bulletins pertaining to the recall will be submitted to NHTSA not later than five days after they are released.

573.6(c)(10)

An advance copy of the owner's letter will be submitted to NHTSA for review and approval prior to release to the owners.

573.6(c)(11)

The number, which has been assigned to the recall by Mack Trucks, Inc., is **SC0309**.

Mack Trucks, Inc. will initiate a voluntary owner notification, and recall the 4,545 vehicles.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Timothy L. LaFon", followed by a long horizontal line.

Timothy L. LaFon
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