



Timothy A. Blubaugh
Director
Government Technical Affairs

November 16, 2005

Freightliner LLC
4747 N. Channel Avenue
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Ron Medford
Sr. Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

OSV-550
(5 pages)

**Re: Defect Information Report FL-466,
Visteon wiper motor assembly on Sterling**

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 1,819 Sterling Acterra, A-Line, and L-Line trucks manufactured September 1, 2005 to October 14, 2005 that may have a defect in the windshield wiper motor drive assembly.

Attached are Freightliner's Defect Information Report and the 49 CFR 573 Defect Information Report from Visteon Corporation.

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 5916



A DaimlerChrysler Company

Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

November 16, 2005

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

Brands: Sterling

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: Sterling Acterra, A-Line, and L-Line

Model Years affected: 2006

Manufacture Dates: September 1, 2005 to October 14, 2005

Basis for determining population: Sterling trucks manufactured September 1 to October 14 that were delivered before the inspection to replace suspect wiper motor assemblies was started at the Sterling Truck Plant.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Reference attached Defect Information Report for more details about Visteon's transfer to Automotive Components Holdings, LLC.

Visteon Corporation

One Village Center Drive

Van Buren Twp, MI 48111

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: 1,819

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: Unknown (per Visteon)

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Certain wiper motor drives fail due to a lack of grease. See attached Defect Information Report from Visteon.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: The wiper motor drive may stop functioning. In certain conditions, this will impair visibility and a crash can occur if the vehicle is not safely stopped.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: See attached Defect Information Report from Visteon. Visteon notified the Sterling Truck Plant in St. Thomas Ontario that a defect had been identified in certain wiper motors. The St. Thomas Truck Plant and Quality Assurance initiated an inspection to replace wiper motors with date codes in the range specified by Visteon. Visteon submitted the attached Defect Report to NHTSA November 7, 2005.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: not applicable

(c)(8) Remedial program: Repairs will be performed by Freightliner dealerships and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by Freightliner to do their own warranty repairs. Dealer notification is expected to be January 9, 2006. The wiper motor date code will be inspected and wiper motor assemblies manufactured within the date range identified by Visteon will be replaced.

Estimated Owner Notification Date: Customers will be notified by first class mail using Freightliner records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately January 9, 2006.

Reimbursement Plan: All prior repairs have been covered under warranty.

(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-466



Tom Hutchison
Director, Corporate Safety
and Environment

Visteon Corporation
One Village Center Drive
Van Buren Twp., MI 48111
Phone: (734) 710-8020
Fax: (734) 736-5573
E-mail: thutchis@visteon.com

November 7, 2005

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

Via DHL Express

Subject: Visteon Wiper Motor

Summary

- Visteon Description of Issue – Visteon Corporation (Visteon) has determined that a defect exists with respect to certain wiper motors manufactured by Visteon during a limited period of time and sold to Original Equipment vehicle manufacturers for installation in finished vehicles' Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems.
- Number of Vehicles Involved – There are approximately 228,156 (Ford Motor Company), 563 (Freightliner, LLC), and 4,590 (Mazda Motor Corporation) vehicles or units in the United States and Federalized Territories.
- Affect on Wiper Motor Operation – Due to insufficient grease or no grease present on the internal gears of certain wiper motors that were produced from August 26, 2005 to October 10, 2005, the potential exists for those wiper motors to stop functioning. Typically, a wiper motor failure will occur within a very short period of time (in the range of 5-30 minutes of operation). This time will vary depending on use.
- Service Procedure – Visteon will notify all affected Original Equipment vehicle manufacturer customers of this potential condition.

Attached is the detailed information required by the applicable portions of 49 CFR Part 573— Defect and Noncompliance Information Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Hutchison", is written over a printed name and title.

Tom Hutchison
Director, Corporate Safety and Environment

Attachment

cc: Chief, Defects and Recall Information
Analysis Division
Via Facsimile to (202) 366-7882

49 CFR Part 573—DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

Visteon Corporation Wiper Motor

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Visteon Corporation (Visteon) submits the following information concerning a safety recall action that it is voluntarily initiating / participating in.

573.6 (c) (2) – Potentially Affected Equipment

There are approximately 228,156 (Ford Motor Company), 563 (Freightliner, LLC), and 4,590 (Mazda Motor Corporation) vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories in which the wiper motors at issue were potentially installed.

On October 1, 2005, Visteon entered into transaction with Ford Motor Company whereby Visteon contributed the assets of certain businesses, including 23 manufacturing facilities, to a Ford controlled legal entity – Automotive Components Holdings, LLC. The manufacturing facility which produced the wiper motors at issue, as well as Visteon's wiper motor business, was transferred and sold to Automotive Components Holdings, LLC in that transaction. A portion of the affected wiper motors were manufactured and shipped to Original Equipment vehicle manufacturers prior to the effective date of this transaction and a portion were manufactured and shipped by Automotive Components Holdings, LLC after the effective date of the transaction. The number of affected vehicles identified above constitutes the estimated population of potentially affected vehicles for the periods both before and after the effective date of the aforementioned transaction.

573.6 (c) (3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Containing Potentially Affected Equipment

There are approximately 228,156 (Ford Motor Company), 563 (Freightliner, LLC), and 4,590 (Mazda Motor Company) vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories in which the wiper motors at issue were potentially installed.

On October 1, 2005, Visteon entered into transaction with Ford Motor Company whereby Visteon contributed the assets of certain businesses, including 23 manufacturing facilities, to a Ford controlled legal entity – Automotive Components Holdings, LLC. The manufacturing facility which produced the wiper motors at issue, as well as Visteon's wiper motor business, was transferred and sold to Automotive Components Holdings, LLC in that transaction. A portion of the affected wiper motors were manufactured and shipped to Original Equipment vehicle manufacturers prior to the effective date of this transaction and a portion were manufactured and shipped by Automotive Components Holdings, LLC after the effective date of the transaction. The number of potentially affected vehicles stated above constitutes the estimated population of potentially affected vehicles for the periods both before and after the effective date of the aforementioned transaction.

573.6 (c) (4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Defect Condition

Unknown.

573.6 (c) (5) – Description of the Defect

Due to insufficient grease or no grease present on the internal gears of the certain wiper motors, the potential exists for the affected wiper motors to stop functioning. Typically, a wiper motor failure will occur within a very short period of time (in the range of 5-30 minutes of operation). This time will vary depending on use.

573.6 (c) (6) – Chronology of Events

On or about October 10, 2005, it was discovered that there was a problem at the Visteon (now Automotive Components Holdings, LLC) Rawsonville, Michigan facility with respect to one of two lines that manufactures windshield wiper motors. The lubricating equipment that applies grease to the internal gears of the wiper motor was partially inoperable for a period of time (our analysis has identified that the problem first occurred on August 26, 2005) and the issue was detected on October 10, 2005. Approximately 233,309 wiper motors were produced during the period of time that the problem with the lubricating equipment persisted. The affected wiper motors were shipped to Ford Motor Company, Mazda Motor Corporation and Freightliner, LLC in the normal course of business.

573.6 (c) (8) – Service Program

Visteon is informed and believes that the Original Equipment vehicle manufacturers will conduct Owner Notification Programs. Visteon is also informed and believes that, consistent with the Owner Notification Programs, affected dealers and customers will be notified to return their vehicles for inspection and repair as required. Wiper motors within the specific production dates and assembly line criteria will be inspected for the presence of grease. If there is no grease or insufficient grease in the wiper motor, grease will be added according to the design specification and the wiper motor will be resealed and verified to be operational. Damaged or inoperable motors will be replaced or repaired.

573.6 (c) (9) – Press Statement and Dealer/Owner Letters

Visteon does not plan to make a statement to the media concerning the subject matter of this action at this time.

573.6 (c) (11) – Recall Number

It is expected that the Original Equipment vehicle manufacturers will assign a recall number to the action.

573.13 (c) (2) – Ending Date for Reimbursement Eligibility

It is expected that the Original Equipment vehicle manufactures will assign the ending date for reimbursement eligibility for cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners.