



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

TRUCK GROUP

05V-567
(3 pages)

December 19, 2005

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

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Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report

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 2002 thru 2006: 7600, 7700, 8600 Series Models
- Vehicle Manufacturing Dates:
 - 3/21/2002 thru 7/28/2005
- Other Identification Necessary to Describe Vehicles:
 - With Caterpillar® Engines.

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

- This report does not relate to a component supplied by a manufacturer other than International Truck and Engine Corporation.

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

<i>Model</i>	<i>U.S. Quantity</i>	<i>Canada Quantity</i>	<i>Mexico Quantity</i>	<i>Export Quantity</i>
7600 4X2	207	27	0	1
7600 6X4	3,181	497	1	142
7700 6X4	51	2	0	0
8600 4X2	1,164	60	0	0
8600 6X4	2,243	345	0	0
Grand Totals	6,848	931	1	143

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

- Forty (40%) of the vehicles in the suspect population are estimated to contain the defect.

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

- The engine electrical ground cable that connects the engine block with the starter may be routed in a way that could cause chafing against the starter's positive battery cables.
- If chafing occurs between the positive and negative cables, an electrical short may result and may cause a vehicle fire, 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)]*

- 7/19/2005 International Compliance notified that a fire had occurred on a 7600 model with a Caterpillar engine in the field.
- 7/26/2005 International Compliance notified that a second fire had occurred on another 7600 model with a Caterpillar engine.
- 7/28/2005 All suspect models units with Caterpillar engines quarantined at the manufacturing facility. It was found that these vehicles were built with a longer engine ground cable (380mm) than needed. They should have been built with a (280mm) cable.
- 9/20/2005 A field inspection study is performed to determine which configurations of engine/starter/ truck model are more likely to chafe.
- 12/2/2005 International conducts a computer search to determine the extent of the suspect population.
- 12/7/2005 International declares a safety recall.

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

- All suspect vehicles' engine ground cables will be inspected for proper routing. If any chafing is found, the engine block ground cable will be replaced with a shorter (280mm) cable and any other damaged cables will be replaced and routed correctly.

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

- Some 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 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: December 21, 2005
- Notify International Customers by: December 30, 2005

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

- 05523 (NHTSA number not assigned yet)

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (260) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. L. Van Laar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R".

R. L. Van Laar
Compliance Manager
INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION