



A Subsidiary of **FREIGHTLINER**
CORPORATION

Product Recall

To: ALL DEALERS

From: TRACY SAUERBREY - CUSTOMER SUPPORT DIVISION

Subject: RECALL 05V-137, 05-078 (Canada #) Tie Rod Assembly

Date: August 26, 2005

Enclosed are copies of the customer notification letter and the repair procedure for Recall 05V-137. This recall involves certain Thomas MVP-EF, ER Transit, MVP-ER, HD and HDX units manufactured from September 2000 through March 2004 with certain Dana front axles. The axle tie rod may crack and separate causing a vehicle crash without prior warning.

This is a universal notification sent to all dealers. You may or may not have customers in your area affected by this recall. If owners in your area are subject to this recall, we have enclosed a printout listing those customers' names and addresses. If there is not a printout enclosed according to our records there are no units in your area involved. **If you have a printout and any of the units on it are still in your possession it is your responsibility to ensure the recall is performed before the unit is delivered to the customer.**

The repair will consist of replacing the tie rod assembly. The labor allowance for this repair is 2.1 hours for tie rod and shock plate per unit (Flat Rate Code 90-48). And 1.3 hours for the tie rod only per unit (Flat Rate Code 90-49). **You will need to order your repair kit directly from the Parts Distribution Center. The reports that are attached are labeled 05V-137A, 05V-137B, etc... Below is a chart showing what needs to be ordered for units listed on each report.**

<u>Report#</u>	<u>Parts to be ordered per unit</u>
05V-137A	ETN 817755 TBB 85490062
05V-137B	ETN 815326 TBB 85490062
05V-137C	ETN 817755
05V-137D	ETN 815326
05V-137E	ETN 817755 TBB 85490062
05V-137F	ETN 815326 TBB 85490062
05V-137G	ETN 817755 TBB 85490062
05V-137H	ETN 815326 TBB 85490062
05V-137I	ETN 817755
05V-137J	ETN 815326

Thomas Built Buses has elected to notify all customers directly. Your customers will be contacting you to schedule an appointment for repairs. Reimbursement for parts and labor (if requested) may be obtained by filing a warranty claim.

If you know of any customers who own or operate a Thomas bus in this recall, whose name and address is NOT listed or is INCORRECTLY listed on the enclosed printout, please promptly notify Thomas Built Buses of that additional information in writing. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Tracy



Dana® Spicer® Axles & Brakes

Steer Axle Cross Link Assembly Replacement Instructions

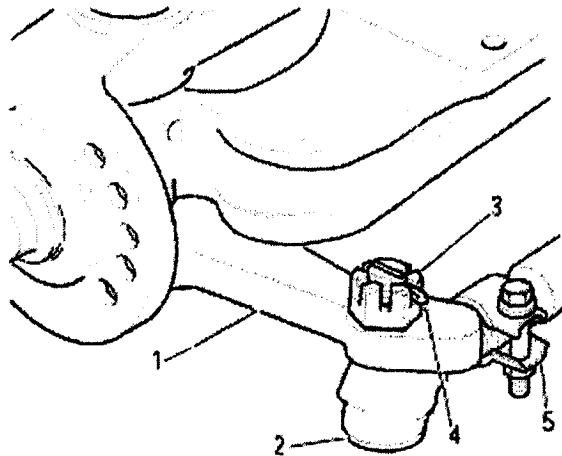
Subject of Instruction Sheet: This instruction sheet will explain the recommended replacement procedure for cross link assemblies on Dana steer axles. It is important to flow the procedure listed below to insure a proper repair. For additional information refer to Dana's steer axle service manual AXSM-0038.

Affected Models: E1200I, E1320I and E1460I

Instructions:

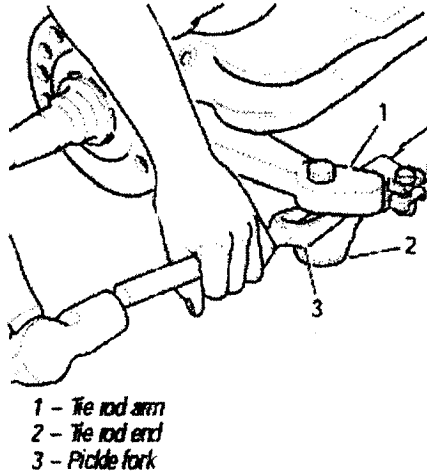
Cross Link Assembly Removal

1. Block the front and back of one of the vehicles tires.
2. Remove the tie rod end cotter pin from the slotted nut on the right and left sides of the cross link assembly.
3. Remove the slotted nut from both the tie rod ends.



- 1 - Tie rod arm
- 2 - Tie rod end
- 3 - Slotted nut
- 4 - Cotter pin
- 5 - Position clamp fastener away from beam

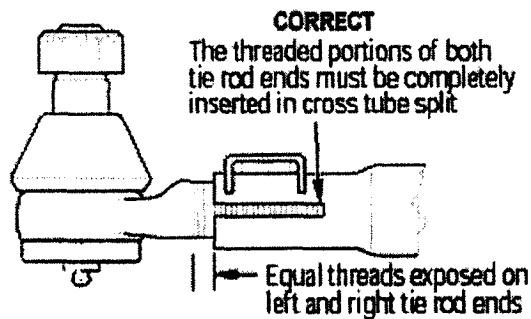
4. Disconnect the tie rod ends from the tie rod arms using a suitable tool such as a pickle fork.



Caution: Do not use heat on any axle parts or fasteners

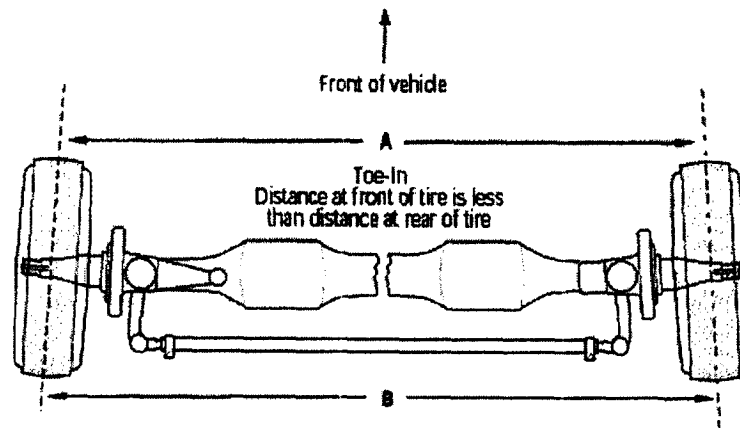
Cross Link Assembly Installation

1. Measure the distance between the grease zerts on the cross link assembly that was removed.
2. The replacement cross link needs to be adjusted so that there is the same distance between the grease zerts on the tie rod ends. This will ensure that the toe setting of the axle will remain the same.
3. Loosen the clamps on the cross tube.
4. Rotate the tie rod ends an equal amount of rotation from side to side until the proper setting is achieved. There should be an equal amount of threads showing on each tie rod end. Leave the clamps loose.

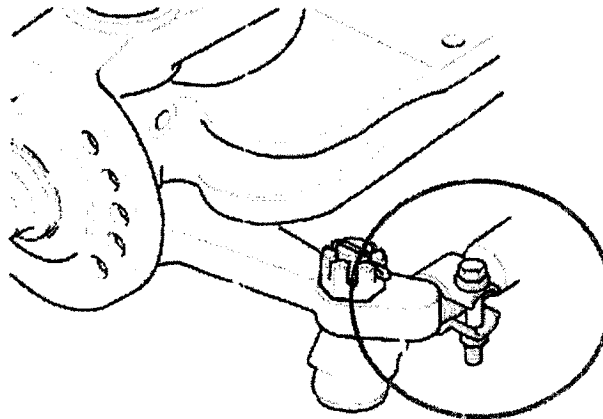


5. Install the tie rod end into the tie rod arm. Secure with slotted nut and torque to 120-160 ft. lbs (163-217 nm). Make sure to line up a slot with the hole in the tie rod end.
6. Install the new cotter pin and bent ends to secure.

7. Check toe setting. Toe specification is 1/16" (1.587mm) for unloaded vehicles. See Dana Service manual AXSM-0038, page 17 for detailed toe adjustment procedure.



8. After toe setting is correct, position the cross tube clamps so that the fasteners is facing the rear of the vehicle as shown below. Torque the clamp fasteners to 45-60 ft. lbs. (61-81nm)





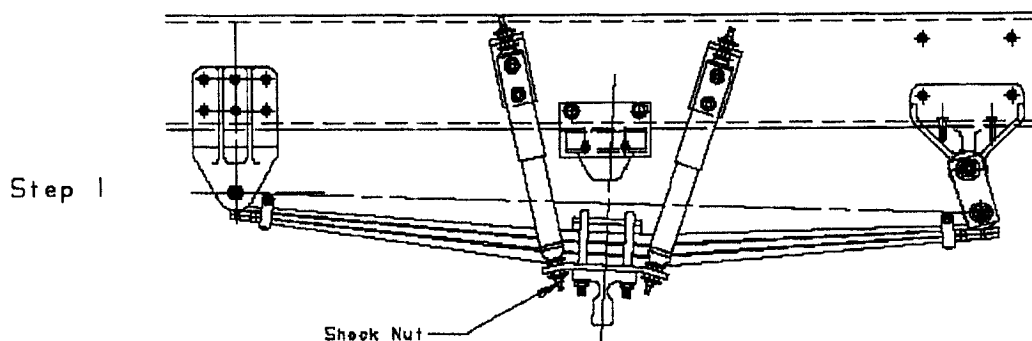
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Product Recall Repair Procedure Recall 05V-137 05-078 - Tie Rod

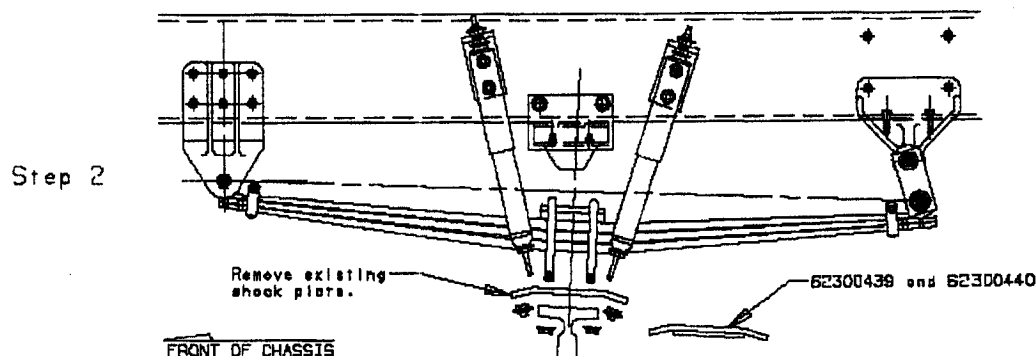
These repair instructions are for HD, HDX Transit Models ONLY with a Dana Axle and 6-inch brakes.

Front Lower Shock Mounting Plate Removal.

1. Set park brake, chock rear wheels.
2. Remove spring U-bolt and nuts and discard. **(DO NOT REUSE)**
3. Lift front of bus enough to take weight off the front wheels, but with wheels still on the ground. Support frame on fixed stands.
4. Disconnect lower end of the shock absorbers and push up out of the way. **STEP 1.**

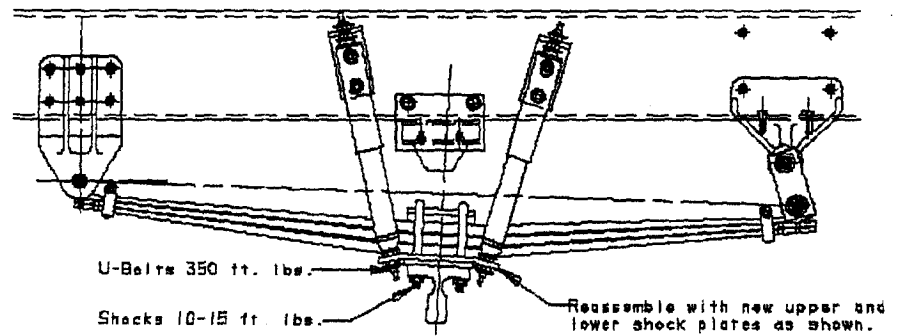


- 5) Replace existing lower shock mounting plate on each side with new lower shock mounting 62300441 on each side. **STEP 2.**



- 6) Lower unit back on to the axle
- 7) Install new u-bolts 61300207 and existing washers, nuts 61370115 provided in kit. **Step 3.**

Step 3



- 8) Torque front u-bolts to 350 ft/lbs T/-50 in gradual increments of 100 ft/lbs to prevent areas of high stress in the u-bolts and spring seating.
- 9) Reconnect front shock absorbers.