

FREIGHTLINER®
LLC

A DaimlerChrysler Company

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DEFECT INVESTIGATION

Timothy A. Blubaugh
Director
Government Technical Affairs

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February 28, 2006

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

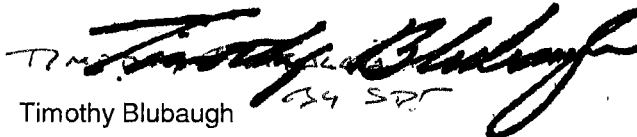
**Re: Defect Information Report – supplemental information
(FL-464), NHTSA no. 05V-541, Fontaine Modification Sit Down Dual Drive
Conversion**

Mr. Smith:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Freightliner LLC herewith submits supplemental defect information and copies of documents to be distributed to dealers and purchasers.

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:

Section 573.6 Non-Compliance Information Report
FL-464, Fontaine SDDD Steering Pinchbolts; NHTSA no. 05V-541
Supplement No.: 02

February 28, 2006

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

(c) (3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: (Revise to read) 197

(c) (9) Communications sent to dealers: posted February 11, 2006
Communications sent to owners: mailed February 17, 2006

Subject: Fontaine Modification Sit Down, Dual Drive Bolts

Models Affected: Specific Freightliner Business Class M2 vehicles manufactured between August 2004 and October 2005 with a right-hand drive position added by Fontaine Modification.

General Information

Freightliner LLC, on behalf of its Freightliner Trucks Division, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on the vehicles mentioned above.

There are approximately 200 vehicles involved in this campaign.

The left-hand steering U-joint pinch bolt that secures the lower steering shaft to the left-hand miter box may have been improperly tightened. Incorrect hardware may have been used to install the steering cross shaft. Loss of a steering shaft pinch bolt or of a cross shaft fastener may cause a loss of steering control and possible vehicle crash without prior warning.

The lower steering shaft pinch bolt and the through bolts on the steering cross shaft will be replaced. **NOTE: This recall affects a small number of vehicles. Please do not over-order kits.**

IMPORTANT: FL464A (the pre-recall inspection) has been superseded by FL464B. All work will continue under FL464B. All involved vehicles require FL464B, even those that have had FL464A performed.

Additional Repairs

Dealers must complete all outstanding recall and field service campaigns prior to the sale or delivery of a vehicle. A Dealer will be liable for any progressive damage that results from its failure to complete campaigns before sale or delivery of a vehicle.

Owners may be liable for any progressive damage that results from its failure to complete campaigns within a reasonable time after receiving notification.

Work Instructions

Please refer to the attached work instructions. Prior to performing the campaign, check the vehicle for a completion sticker (Form WAR260).

Replacement Parts

Replacement kits are now available and can be obtained by ordering the kit number(s) listed below from your facing Parts Distribution Center.

If our records show your dealership has ordered any vehicles involved in campaign number FL464B, a list of the customers and vehicle identification numbers will be available on AccessFreightliner.com. Please refer to this list when ordering parts for this recall.

Recall Campaign

February 2006
 FL464B
 NHTSA #05V-541

Table 1 - Replacement Kits for FL464B

NOTE: This recall affects a small number of vehicles. Please do not over-order kits.

Campaign Number	Kit Number	Kit Description	Parts Included	Qty. per Kit	Suggested Wholesale*
FL464B	25-FL464-000	Fontaine Replacement Kit FNT 35201-FL464-000	Pinch Bolt	1 ea	\$3.73 U.S. \$5.43 CAN
			Prevailing Torque Nut	1 ea	
			Through Bolt, 3/8" x 2.25"	4 ea	
			Stover Nut, 3/8"	4 ea	
			Completion Sticker, WAR260	1 ea	

* Please charge all Direct Warranty Customers the above-listed price for the kit, as they are authorized to perform their own Recalls.

Table 1

Removed Parts

Please follow Warranty Failed Parts Tracking shipping instructions for the disposition of all removed parts.

Labor Allowance

Table 2 - Labor Allowance

Campaign Number	Procedure	Time Allowed (hours)	SRT Code	Damage Code
FL464B	Inspect pinch bolt and replace if needed; replace cross shaft bolts (including drilling for through bolt if needed)	1.3	996-0664A	000-Modifiedx
FL464B	Inspect pinch bolt and replace if needed; replace cross shaft bolts	1.0	996-0664B	000-Modifiedx

Table 2

IMPORTANT: When the recall has been completed, locate the base completion label in the appropriate location on the vehicle, and attach the red completion sticker provided in the recall kit (Form WAR260). If the vehicle does not have a base completion label, clean a spot on the appropriate location of the vehicle and first attach the base completion label (Form WAR259). If a recall kit is not required or there is no completion sticker in the kit, write the recall number on a blank sticker and attach it to the base completion label.

Claims for Credit

You will be reimbursed for your parts, labor, and handling by submitting your claim through the Warranty system within 30 days of completing this campaign. Please reference the following information in QuickClaim®:

- Claim type is **Recall**.
- In the FTL Authorization field, enter the campaign number and appropriate condition code (**FL464B**). **IMPORTANT:** FL464A (the pre-recall inspection) has been superseded by FL464B. All work will continue under FL464B. All involved vehicles require FL464B, even those that have had FL464A performed.
- In the Primary Failed Part Number field, enter **25-FL464-000**.
- In the Parts field, enter the appropriate kit number(s) as shown in the Replacement Parts Table. **NOTE:** This recall affects a small number of vehicles. Please do not over-order kits.
- In the Labor field, first enter the appropriate SRT from the Labor Allowance Table. For administrative time, enter SRT 939-0010A for 0.3 hours.

Recall Campaign

February 2006
FL464B
NHTSA #05V-541

NOTE: ServicePro®/Service Advisor® must be viewed prior to performing the recall to ensure the vehicle is involved and the campaign has not been previously completed. Also, check for a completion sticker prior to beginning work.

Contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, Web inquiry at AccessFreightliner.com / Support / Submit an Inquiry, or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) 385-4357, after normal business hours, if you have any questions or need additional information.

To return excess kit inventory related to this campaign, U.S. dealers must submit a Parts Authorization Return (PAR) to the Memphis PDC. Canadian dealers must submit a PAR to their facing PDC. All kits must be in resalable condition. PAR requests must include the original purchase invoice number.

The letter notifying vehicle owners is included for your reference.

Please note that the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, as amended (Title 49 United States Code, Chapter 301), requires the owner's vehicle(s) be corrected within a reasonable time after parts are available to you. The Act states that failure to repair a vehicle within 60 days after tender for repair shall be prima facie evidence of an unreasonable time. However, circumstances of a particular situation may reduce the 60 day period. Failure to repair a vehicle within a reasonable time can result in either the obligation to (a) replace the vehicle with an identical or reasonably equivalent vehicle, without charge, or (b) refund the purchase price in full, less a reasonable allowance for depreciation. The Act further prohibits dealers from selling a vehicle unless all outstanding recalls are performed. Also, any lessor is required to send a copy of the recall notification to the lessee.

Finally, the Act states that a remedy need not be provided without charge if the vehicle was bought by the first purchaser more than ten (10) calendar years before notice is given.

Recall Campaign



February 2006
FL464B
NHTSA #05V-541

Copy of Letter to Owner

Subject: Fontaine Modification Sit Down, Dual Drive Bolts

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. It is also sent in accordance with the Canadian Motor Vehicles Safety Act.

Freightliner LLC, on behalf of its Freightliner Trucks Division, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Freightliner Business Class M2 vehicles manufactured between August 2004 and October 2005 with a right-hand drive position added by Fontaine Modification.

The left-hand steering U-joint pinch bolt that secures the lower steering shaft to the left-hand miter box may have been improperly tightened. Incorrect hardware may have been used to install the steering cross shaft. Loss of a steering shaft pinch bolt or of a cross shaft fastener may cause a loss of steering control and possible vehicle crash without prior warning.

The lower steering shaft pinch bolt and the through bolts on the steering cross shaft will be replaced.

Repair kits are now available for authorized dealers to order. Contact your authorized dealer to arrange to have your vehicle(s) modified and to assure that parts are available at the dealer. To locate a dealer, search online at www.Freightliner.com or contact the Warranty Campaigns Department for assistance.

When you contact your dealer, refer to campaign number **FL464B**. Once kit(s) are received at the dealership, the modification will take approximately an hour and a half and will be performed at no charge to you.

IMPORTANT: When the recall has been completed, please ensure that a label has been affixed to your vehicle referencing **FL464B**.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s) which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner. If you have leased this vehicle, please make sure this notification is immediately forwarded to the lessee.

If you are not able to have the defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, which is not longer than 60 days after you tender the vehicle for repair, please contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time Monday through Friday, e-mail address WarrantyCampaigns@freightliner.com, or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) FTL-HELP or (800) STL-HELP, after normal business hours. You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 7th Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590; or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or to <http://www.safercar.gov>. If your vehicle is involved in the Canadian portion, you may wish to notify Transport Canada, ASFAD, Place de Ville Tower C, 330 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5, or phone (800) 333-0510.

We regret any inconvenience this action may cause but feel certain you understand our interest in motor vehicle safety.

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT

Enclosure

Work Instructions

Subject: Fontaine Modification Sit Down, Dual Drive Bolts

Models Affected: Specific Freightliner Business Class M2 vehicles manufactured between August 2004 and October 2005 with a right-hand drive position added by Fontaine Modification.

Replacement Procedure

IMPORTANT: FL464A (the pre-recall inspection) has been superseded by FL464B. All work will continue under FL464B. All involved vehicles require FL464B, even those that have had FL464A performed.

NOTE: This recall affects a small number of vehicles. Please do not over-order kits.

Check the base label (Form WAR259) for a completion sticker for FL464 indicating this work has been done. The base label is usually located on the passenger-side door about 12 inches (30 cm) below the door latch. If a completion sticker is present, no further work is needed. If there is no completion sticker, proceed with the following instructions.

Park the vehicle on a level surface. Shut down the engine, set the parking brake, and chock the tires.

Left-Hand Steering Position

1. Remove the steering-column covers from the left-hand steering column.

Tilt Column: Remove the screws that attach the lower and upper clamshell covers to the steering column, and remove the covers. Remove the screws that attach the center and lower covers to the steering column, and remove the covers. Retain the screws for reinstalling the covers. See **Fig. 1**.

Fixed Column: Remove the screws that attach the lower and upper clamshell covers to the steering column, and remove the covers. Retain the screws for reinstalling the covers. See **Fig. 2**.

2. Locate the steering pinch bolt that connects the intermediate shaft to the 3-way gear box. See **Fig. 3**. Remove the steering pinch bolt and nut then discard them.

CAUTION

Take care that the steering intermediate shaft does not become disconnected from the 3-way gear box. If it does, the steering wheel may no longer be centered at the completion of this repair.

3. Install the pinch bolt and prevailing torque nut from the kit. Tighten the nut to 30 to 35 lbf-ft (40 to 45 N-m).
4. Locate the two through bolts on the steering cross-shaft U-joint, that connects the 3-way gear box on the left side, to the cross shaft. See **Fig. 4**. Remove both of the through bolts, and replace them with two 3/8-inch x 2.25-inch bolts and 3/8-inch stover nuts from the kit. Tighten the nuts to 30 to 35 lbf-ft (40 to 45 N-m).
5. Install the left-hand steering column covers.
Tilt Column: Using the three screws, attach the lower and center steering column covers to the steering column. Using three screws, attach the upper and lower clamshell covers to the steering column.
Fixed Column: Attach the lower and upper clamshell covers to the steering column.
6. Proceed to the steps for the right-hand steering position.

Recall Campaign

February 2006
 FL464B
 NHTSA #05V-541

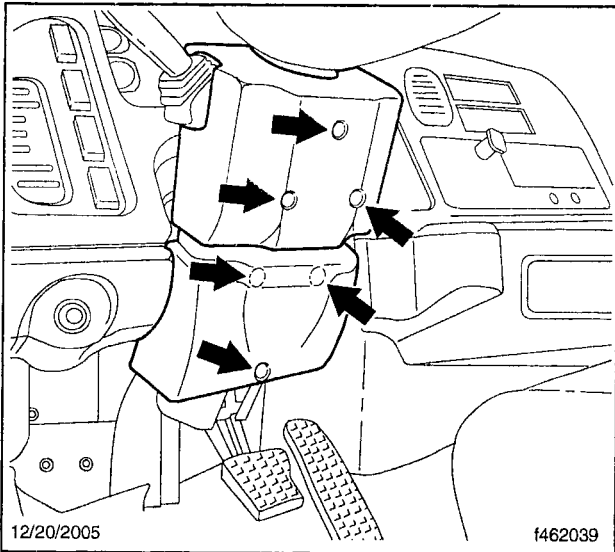
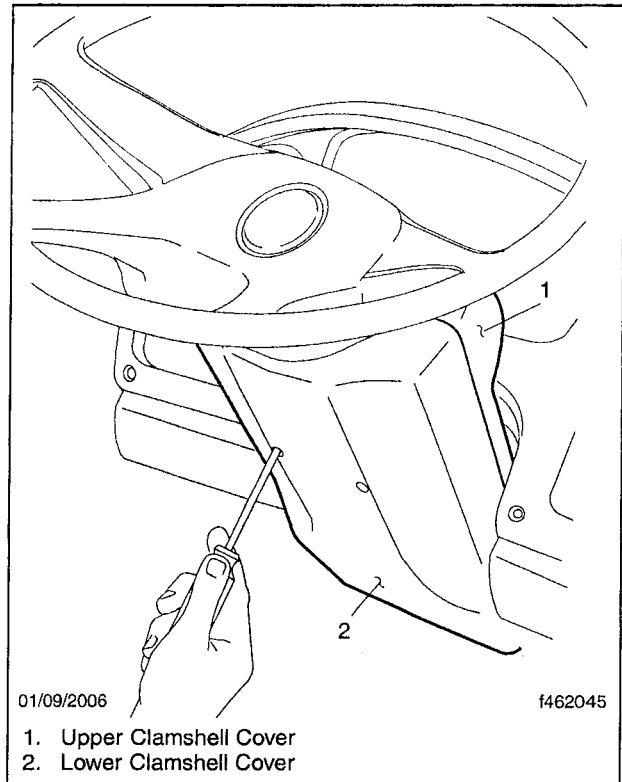


Fig. 1, Tilt Column Cover Mounting Screws



- 1. Upper Clamshell Cover
- 2. Lower Clamshell Cover

Fig. 2, Fixed Column Covers

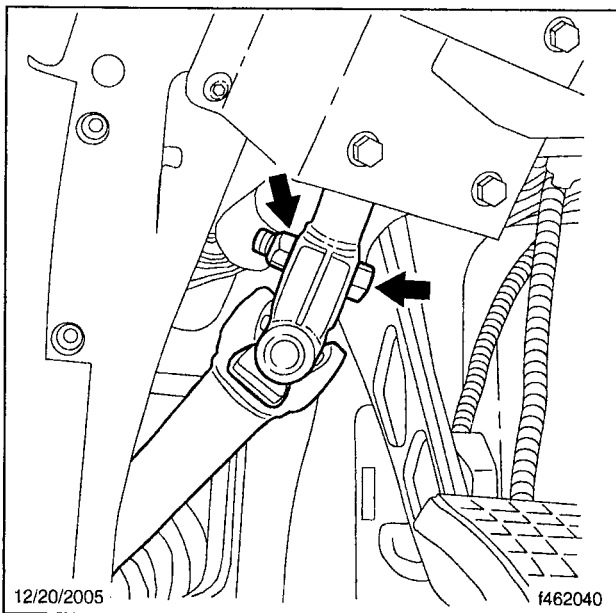


Fig. 3, Pinch Bolt on Intermediate Shaft, Left-Hand Side

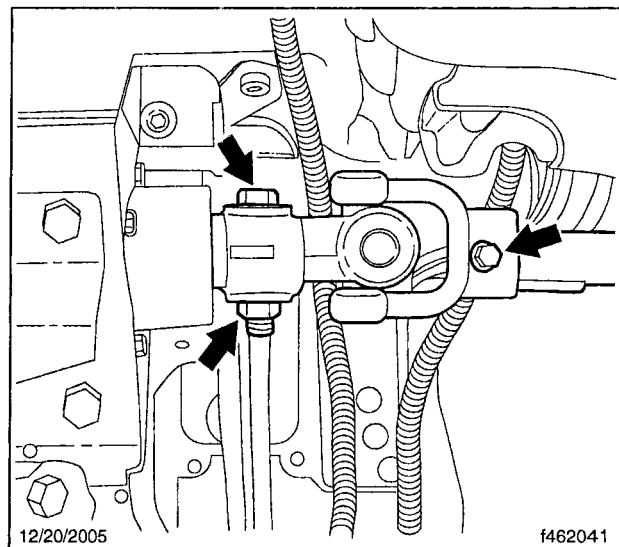


Fig. 4, Through Bolts on Cross Shaft, Left-Hand Side

Right-Hand Steering Position

1. Remove the steering-column covers from the right-hand steering column.

Tilt Column: Remove the screws that attach the lower and upper clamshell covers to the steering column, and remove the covers. Remove the screws that attach the center and lower covers to the steering column, and remove the covers. Retain the screws for reinstalling the covers.

Fixed Column: Remove the screws that attach the lower and upper clamshell covers to the steering column, and remove the covers. Retain the screws for reinstalling the covers.

2. Remove the three bolts on the steering cross-shaft cover, and remove the cover. Retain the bolts for reinstalling the cover. See **Fig. 5**.
3. Inspect for the following two conditions on the steering cross-shaft U-joint that connects the 2-way gear box to the cross shaft:

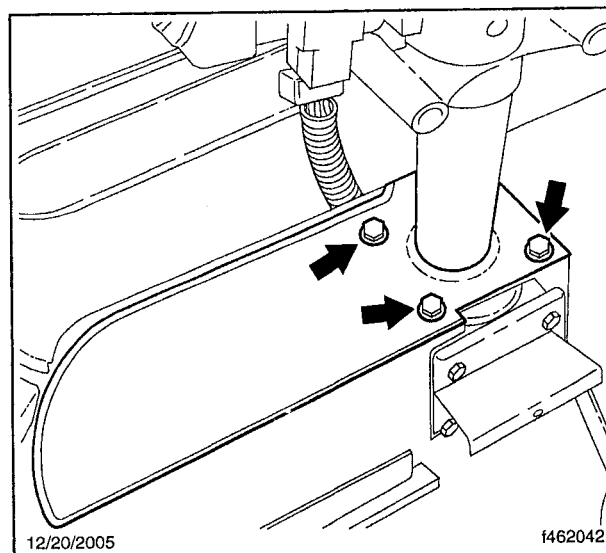


Fig. 5, Cross-Shaft Cover Bolts

- 3.1 If one through bolt is observed:

Remove the through bolt and replace it with a 3/8-inch x 2.25-inch bolt and 3/8-inch stover nut from the kit. Tighten the nut to 30 to 35 lbf-ft (40 to 45 N·m).

Locate the setscrew in the cross-shaft U-joint yoke (in some cases the setscrew is positioned 90 degrees from the keyway position). Remove the setscrew, then using the hole as a drill guide, carefully drill a 3/8-inch hole through the cross shaft. See **Fig. 6**.

Using a metal file, remove any burrs caused by drilling.

Install the supplied 3/8-inch x 2.25-inch bolt, and 3/8-inch stover nut. Tighten the nut to 30 to 35 lbf-ft (40 to 45 N·m).

Recall Campaign

February 2006
FL464B
NHTSA #05V-541

3.2 If two through bolts are observed:

Remove the through bolts and replace them with two 3/8-inch x 2.25-inch bolts and 3/8-inch stover nuts from the kit. Tighten the nuts to 30 to 35 lbf-ft (40 to 45 N-m). See **Fig. 7**.

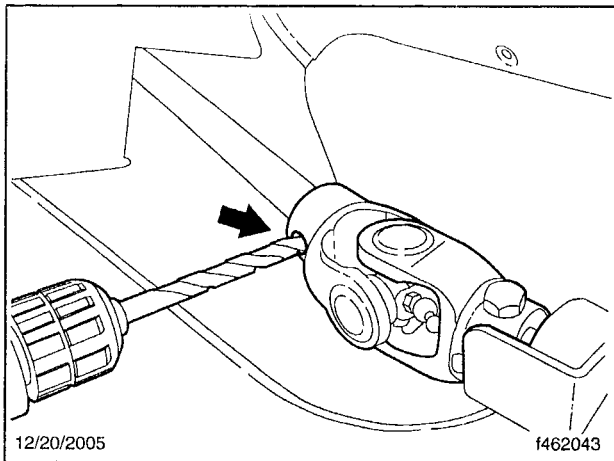


Fig. 6, Cross Shaft with One Through Bolt, Right-Hand Side

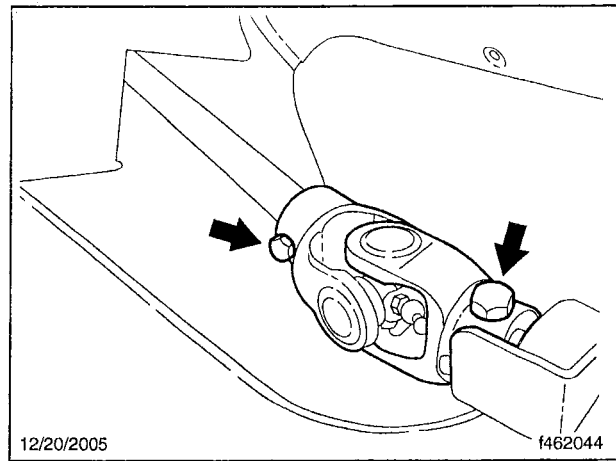


Fig. 7, Cross Shaft With Two Through Bolts, Right-Hand Side

4. Install the cross-shaft cover.
5. Install the right-hand steering-column covers.
6. Clean a spot on the base label (Form WAR259). The base label is usually located on the passenger-side door about 12 inches (30 cm) below the door latch. Attach a completion sticker (Form WAR260) for recall FL464 to the base label.
7. Remove the chocks from the tires.