



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

*November 8, 2006*

TIMOTHY BLUBAUGH  
DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL AFFAIRS  
FREIGHTLINER LLC  
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE  
PORTLAND OR 97217

NVS-215  
06V-423

Subject: TIE ROD ASSEMBLY

Dear MR. BLUBAUGH:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**  
FREIGHTLINER CUSTOM CHASS/2005-2006

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 06V-423

**Mfg's Report Date:** October 23, 2006

**Components:** STEERING: LINKAGES: TIE ROD ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2,000

**Summary:**

ON CERTAIN MOTOR HOMES, THE TIE ROD SPECIFIED FOR THE AXLE ASSEMBLY IS TOO SHORT, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN INSUFFICIENT THREAD ENGAGEMENT.

**Consequence:**

THE TIE ROD ENDS MAY SEPARATE UNDER CERTAIN EXTREME CONDITIONS, RESULTING IN REDUCED STEERING CONTROL. SUCH AN EVENT MAY LEAD TO A CRASH WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND REPLACE THE TIE ROD FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON DECEMBER 21, 2006. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 503-745-5219.

**Notes:**

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-483. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

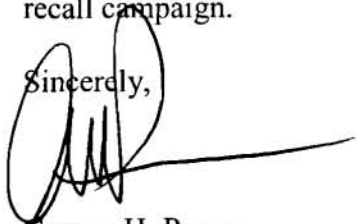
Please provide the model name of the motor homes involved.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin on December 21, 2006. Since this is so close to the end of the quarter, the first quarterly report will be due on or before April 30, 2007.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at [patricia.wallace@dot.gov](mailto:patricia.wallace@dot.gov) or [delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:delia.lopez@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement