

VOLVO

March 31, 2006

Subject: New Safety Recall (RVXX0602, DANA STEERING SHAFTS)

Attention:

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

Submitted via Email to Patricia Wallace.

06V-099
(3 Pages)

The following information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a defect relating to motor vehicle safety.

573.6(c)(1)

Volvo Trucks North America
P.O. Box 26115
Greensboro, NC 27402-6115

573.6(c)(2)

Volvo VHD, VN, and VT Heavy-Duty Class 8 vehicles manufactured with certain Dana Steering Shafts on January 23, 2006 through March 17, 2006.

Model Years affected: 2007 for all models.

The start date was selected based on delivery schedules supplied by Dana and then correlated to vehicle build dates. The end date was selected based on the containment activities at Volvo Trucks North America's manufacturing facility.

Original Equipment Supplier Information:

Dana Corporation
6201 Trust Drive
Holland, OH 43528

573.6(c)(3)

One thousand three hundred and sixty-eight vehicles are affected. **Of the 1,368, there are one thousand eleven (1,011) vehicles domiciled in the US.**

573.6(c)(4)

The percentage of the 1,368 vehicles expected to contain the defect is unknown.

573.6(c)(5)

There exists the potential that the steering shaft pinch bolt hole may be incorrectly located (not according to design specifications). If the hole is incorrectly located a secondary safety feature may be defeated. The secondary safety feature is that the pinch bolt fits into a groove in the steering gear input shaft to ensure that the steering shaft does not separate from the steering gear if the pinch bolt comes loose. This defect could potentially lead to steering shaft separation resulting in loss of control of the vehicle if the pinch bolt were to come loose.

573.6 (c)(6)

Chronology of principle events that were the basis for the determination:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 2/28/06 | Problem identified at factory. Operator was able to remove shaft with pinch bolt installed but loose. Investigation opened. |
| 2/28/06 | Manufacturing confirmed that some steering shaft pinch bolt holes were not according to design specification. |
| 3/1/06 | Stop Delivery Issued. Supplier contacted and containment program started at the vehicle manufacturing facility |
| 3/10/06 | Initial Root Cause analysis published by Dana. |
| 3/15/06 | Scope defined. Dana defines start date, January 21, 2006, that suspect shafts were shipped. |
| 3/27/06 | Volvo Trucks North America decided that the condition described in this notification constitutes a defect and that such defect is safety related. |
| 3/31/06 | NHTSA notified that Volvo Trucks North America would initiate a voluntary safety recall. |

573.6(c)(7)

Not applicable

573.6(c)(8)

Volvo Trucks North America, Inc. will initiate a voluntary owner notification, and recall all 1,368 vehicles.

The recall repair will consist of inspection of the steering shaft and replacement as required.

Reimbursement for cost incurred by the owner for “prenotification remedies” will be addressed on a case-by-case basis according to the “General Plan for Reimbursement of Pre-notification Remedies” which was published December 8th, 2004.

The number, which has been assigned to this recall by Volvo Trucks North America, is **RVXX0602**.

A Safety Alert notifying dealers will be distributed on or before April 3. The owner letters are tentatively scheduled to be mailed on May 30, 2006.

Advance copies of the Owner Notice will be submitted to NHTSA for review and approval prior to release to the owners.

If there are any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Timothy L. LaFon", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Timothy L. LaFon
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