



May 26, 2006

06 V-204
(2 Pages)

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

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)
American LaFrance, LLC
8500 Palmetto Commerce Parkway
Ladson, SC 29456-6700

573.6(c)(2)
American LaFrance Fire Trucks manufactured between November 2005 and April 2006. Identified vehicles are fitted with CM850 diesel engines manufactured by Cummins Inc.

573.6(c)(3)
There are twenty-two (22) vehicles equipped with the subject engines, however, only one (1) has been shipped to an end user.

573.6(c)(4)
Percentage of vehicles expected to contain the suspect defect is 16%.

573.6(c)(5)
Cummins contacted American LaFrance and advised us that a number of engines could experience connecting rod failures. This in itself does not constitute a Safety Related Defect, however, as an emergency vehicle an engine failure while a fire truck is on its way to a fire or is in pumping mode while at a fire scene could mean the difference between life and death and in the eyes of American LaFrance this constitutes a Safety Related Defect.

Description of Defect:

The subject connecting rod transmits energy from the piston to the crankshaft. The connecting rod defect can result in seizure of the piston pin. A piston pin seizure can result in a mission-disabling engine failure.

573.6 (c)(6)

- 5/04/06 Cummins Inc. contacted American LaFrance Compliance Department and indicated that they would be conducting an engine recall to correct a connecting rod problem. Cummins Recall # C-0615 - NHTSA Recall # 06E-037
- 5/5/06 It was determined that Cummins Service Group was dealing with our Service Group in identifying suspect trucks since April 10, 2006.
- 5/12/06 The only vehicle that had been delivered to a customer was taken into a dealership to have the recall repairs completed.
- 5/22/06 Cummins e-mailed the official list of engines sold to American LaFrance that are affected by this recall.
- 05/23/06 American LaFrance, LLC has determined that the condition described in this notification constitutes a product defect and that this defect is safety related.

573.6(c)(7)

Not applicable

573.6(c)(8)

As the only vehicle that was delivered to a customer has already been repaired and since all other affected trucks will have the recall completed before they delivered to their customers no formal recall notification will be necessary.

As Cummins Inc. will be completing the recall repair on the remaining trucks in our various facilities they will be reporting the Quarterly Report Completion Rates.

The number which American LaFrance, LLC, has assigned to this recall for tracking purposes is **ALF - 0206**.

Very Truly Yours

AMERICAN LAFRANCE, LLC



Stan R. Gornick, P. Eng.
Manager, Compliance