



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

*August 9, 2007*

NASSER ZAMANI  
MANAGER, COMPLIANCE  
AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
FREIGHTLINER, LLC  
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE  
PORTLAND OR 97217-7699

NVS-215dgl  
07V-343

Subject: STEERING GEAR SPACER/ZF

Dear MR. ZAMANI:

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:**

FCCC/CX-R/2003-2008  
FCCC/VCL/2003-2008  
FCCC/XB-R/2003-2008  
FCCC/XC/2003-2008  
FCCC/XC-F/2003-2008  
FCCC/XC-L/2003-2008  
FCCC/XC-P/2003-2008

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 07V-343

**Mfg's Report Date:** July 23, 2007

**Components:** STEERING:GEAR BOX:SHAFT PITMAN

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 6,227

**Summary:**

CERTAIN MOTOR HOME CHASSIS EQUIPPED WITH ZF MODEL 8018 STEERING GEARS MAY HAVE BEEN ASSEMBLED WITH THE INCORRECT RECIRCULATING BALL SPACER. THIS COULD POTENTIALLY ALLOW THE RECIRCULATING BALLS TO ESCAPE FROM THE RECIRCULATING BALL CIRCUIT RESULTING IN A LOSS OF STEERING.

**Consequence:**

THE OPERATOR MAY NOTICE HIGHER REQUIRED STEERING WHEEL INPUTS, OR THE NEED FOR MORE STEERING WHEEL ADJUSTMENTS WHILE DRIVING IN A STRAIGHT LINE IN COMBINATION WITH METALLIC CRACKING NOISES PRIOR TO A LOSS OF STEERING. LOSS OF STEERING COULD RESULT IN A VEHICLE CRASH.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE STEERING GEAR FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 23, 2007. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 1-800-547-0712.

**Notes:**

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-509. 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:

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. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

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), [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or though the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

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