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2007 APRIL 26

RECALL MANAGEMENT DIVISION



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## Recall A-0701: Loose Steering Column Fasteners

April 12, 2007

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

**07V-184  
(4 Pages)**

Re: Report Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6  
Autocar, LLC, Recall No. A-0701

The following information is 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)  
Autocar, LLC

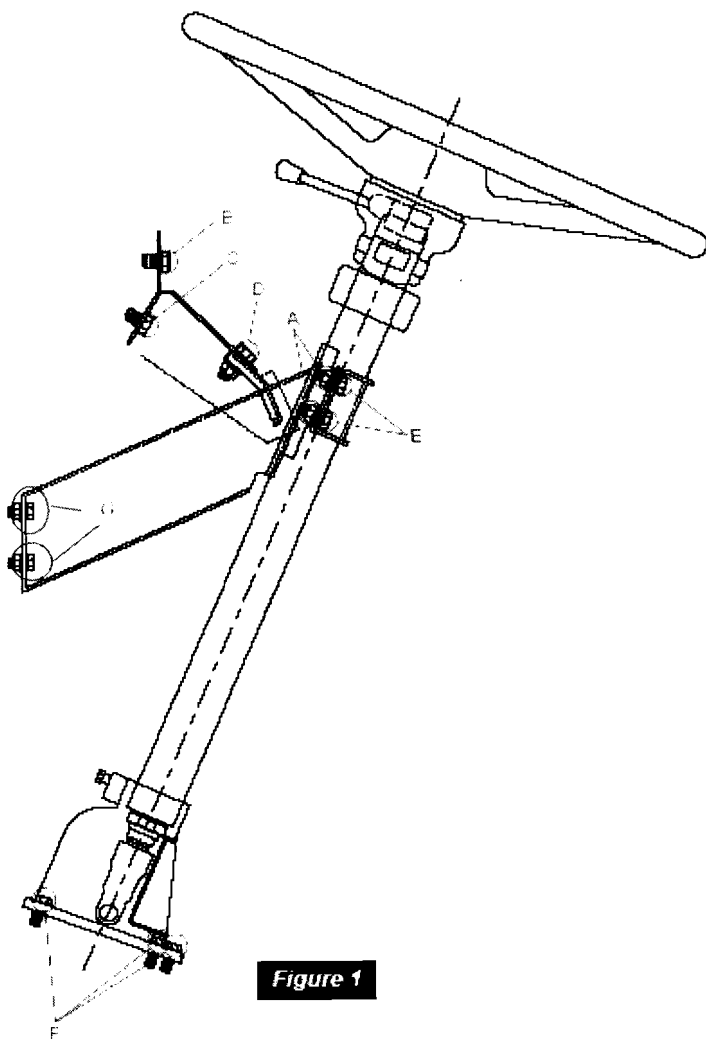
573.6(c)(2)  
Autocar, LLC has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain WX, WXR and WXLL 2007 model-year, heavy-duty class 8 vehicles shipped from the supplier between October 3, 2006 and January 23, 2007 with serial numbers in the range 203646 through 205372.

573.6(c)(3)  
682 vehicles are affected

573.6(c)(4)  
An estimated 10% of the affected vehicles contain the defect.

573.6(c)(5)

Some of the fasteners ("G" and "D" in figure 1) that fix the brackets that support the steering column may not be secured to the proper torque. In 6 out of 339 units fastener "C" was omitted completely.



**Figure 1**

573.6 (c)(6)

1. 1/22/07: Lower steering column support bracket found loose at Autocar during routine inspection.
2. 1/22/07: While checking lower support nuts, Autocar found upper support reinforcement bracket bolts not installed on certain units.
3. 1/23/07: Temporary corrective action implemented at supplier.
4. 2/1/07: Permanent SCAR fully implemented at supplier.
5. 2/3/07: Last Autocar repaired for fasteners "C" and "G".
6. 2/26/07: Product Integrity Committee (PIC) Meeting held: Decide to mock-up and test the assembly with incorrectly torqued fasteners to verify severity.
7. 3/13/07: PIC Follow-up meeting: Perform an actual cab steering "shake" test and decided to do service program and perform 100% audits on selected units in inventory.
8. 3/19/07: Audit one unit each of WX, WXR and WXLL models. Found previously undetected incorrectly torqued fasteners and called PIC meeting.
9. 3/26/07: PIC Meeting: Decide to initiate a service program that can address all cabs built since October 3, 2006 up to the agreed cut-off date.
10. 4/9/07: PIC Meeting: Included Able Mfg in the meeting and upgraded the campaign from a service bulletin to recall status. Agree on a cut-off date of January 23, 2007.

573.6(c)(7)

Not applicable

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Autocar will initiate a voluntary owner notification and recall based on the vehicle population of 682 units.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

4/16/07 573.6 letter to NHTSA  
4/30/07 Owner Notification Letter to Office of Defects Investigation  
5/21/07 Owner Notification Letter to affected vehicle owners

573.6(c)(9)

Not Applicable

The number which Autocar, LLC has assigned to this recall for tracking purposes is A-0701.

Very truly yours,



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Jo Theart  
Engineering Compliance  
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