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Recall A-0702: SR7 Brake Valves

NHTSA 07E-037

September 2007

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Report Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6, **Rev2**
Autocar, LLC, Recall No. A-0702

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 ("Autocar")

573.6(c)(2)

Autocar, has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain WX, WXR and WXLL 2007 and 2008 model-year, heavy-duty class 8 vehicles built between February 24, 2006 and June 9, 2007 with serial numbers in the range 203361 through 205713.

573.6(c)(3)

26 vehicles are affected

573.6(c)(4)

All of the affected vehicles contain the suspect part. Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, LLC ("Bendix"), the manufacturer of the suspect part, estimates that 5% of the suspect parts exhibit the defect intermittently.

573.6(c)(5)

Bendix has determined that a manufacturing defect exists in the internal rubber check valves inside the SR-7 spring brake modulating valves supplied to Autocar. The component supplier of the internal check valve made changes to its manufacturing process which were not authorized by Bendix or Autocar. The internal check valve rubber may become deformed over time, which could result in the check valve not seating properly. Leakage may result from such improper seating and could cause a delay in the application of the spring brakes to park the vehicle after the operator pulls the dash valve button. The delayed parking brake application could occur without warning, leading to unintended vehicle roll-away. Normal service operation is not otherwise affected. There have been no reports of any injuries related to this issue.

573.6 (c)(6)

6/8/07	Bendix notified Autocar of the potential problem.
6/11/07	Autocar issued a "ship hold" instruction, awaiting further information from Bendix.
6/12/07	Autocar received date -stamp information for the identification of the suspect valves and initiated an in-house campaign and safety recall.

573.6(c)(7)

Not applicable

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Autocar will initiate a voluntary owner notification and recall on the 26 affected vehicles.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

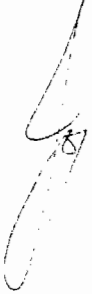
6/14/07	573.6 letter to NHTSA
6/21/07	Owner Notification Letter to Office of Defects Investigation
8/23/07	Final service parts information received from Bendix
9/10/07	Confirmation of ETA for replacement parts at Autocar
9/12/07	Owner Address confirmation completed
9/14/07	Owner notification letter mailing starts

573.6(c)(9)

Not Applicable

The number which Autocar has assigned to this recall for tracking purposes is A-0702.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo Theart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jo Theart
Engineering Compliance
Autocar, LLC
765 489 6040