

Daimler Trucks North America LLC

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. Box 4090
Portland, OR 97208-4090
800.547.0712 Phone
503.745.9009 Fax

September 2009
FL511A
NHTSA #07V-394
REMINDER NOTICE

Subject: FCCC FS/FB65 Steering Pinch Bolts

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. This notice is also sent in accordance with the Canadian Motor Vehicles Safety Act.

Freightliner LLC, on behalf of its wholly owned subsidiary, Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation, has decided that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Freightliner Custom Chassis FB65 shuttle bus chassis and FS65 school chassis (Thomas Built Buses Conventional FS65) manufactured between January 1, 2005, and August 31, 2005.

The steering pinch bolt may have been improperly installed on some buses. Improper pinch bolt installation may cause a decoupling of the steering shaft and a loss of steering, resulting in a possible vehicle crash without prior warning.

Buses will be inspected for correct steering pinch bolt installation. Improperly installed pinch bolts will be torqued to the correct specification.

IMPORTANT: Vehicles should be taken out of regular service until the pinch bolts have been inspected. Please see the enclosed inspection procedure for your use prior to taking your vehicle to a dealership for the Recall.

This is a follow up to a previous communication. Our records indicate that your vehicle has not yet had this recall performed. Please make arrangement to have this repair done as soon as possible. If it has been completed, please disregard this letter.

Contact your authorized dealer to arrange to have your vehicle(s) inspected. To locate a dealer, search online at www.FreightlinerTrucks.com or contact the Warranty Campaigns Department for assistance.

When you contact your dealer, refer to campaign number **FL511A**. The Recall will take up to approximately 45 minutes and will be performed at no charge to you.

IMPORTANT: When the Recall has been completed, please ensure that a label has been affixed to your vehicle referencing **FL511A**.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s) which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner. If you have leased this vehicle, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to the lessee within 10 days. If you are a subsequent stage manufacturer, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to your distributors and retail outlets within five working days.

If you are not able to have the defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, which is not longer than 60 days after you tender the vehicle for repair, please contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, e-mail address DTNA.Warranty.Campaigns@Daimler.com, or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) FTL-HELP or (800) STL-HELP, after normal business hours. You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or to <http://www.safercar.gov>. If your vehicle is involved in the Canadian portion, you may wish to notify Transport Canada, ASFAD, Place de Ville Tower C, 330 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5, or phone (800) 333-0510.

We regret any inconvenience this action may cause but feel certain you understand our interest in motor vehicle safety.

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT

Enclosure

October 2007
FL511A
NHTSA #07V-394

Customer Inspection

Subject: FCCC FS/FB65 Steering Pinch Bolts

Models Affected: Specific Freightliner Custom Chassis FB65 shuttle bus chassis and FS65 school chassis (Thomas Built Buses Conventional FS65) manufactured between January 1, 2005, and August 31, 2005.

Pinch Bolt Inspection

WARNING

Affected vehicles should be taken out of regular service until the pinch bolts are inspected. If a vehicle does not pass the inspection below, contact your Freightliner or Thomas Built Buses dealer immediately for assistance.

1. Shut down the engine, set the parking brake, and chock the tires.
2. Rotate the steering wheel until the nut is fully visible. See **Fig. 2**.
3. Check to see if Torque Seal® (paint) is present on the pinch bolt and nut.

If Torque Seal (paint) is present, please contact your dealer and make arrangements to take your vehicle in to have the Recall performed.

If Torque Seal (paint) is *not* present on the pinch bolt and nut, contact your dealer immediately for assistance. The vehicle should not be driven until the Recall is performed.

4. Remove the chocks from the tires.

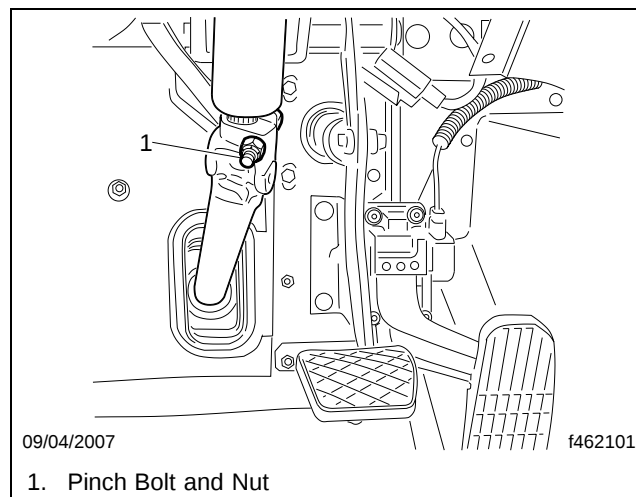


Fig. 1, Pinch Bolt and Nut on Fixed Steering Column