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MANAGEMENT DIVISION

DAIMLER



Daimler Trucks North America
Nasser Zamani
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

August 4, 2008

08V-398
(2 Pages)

Dan Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report FL-535, Sterling 360 Turbocharger Bracket

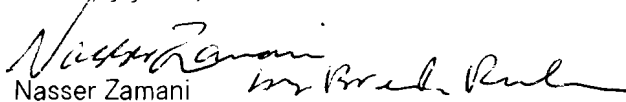
Mr. Smith

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 238 Sterling Model 360 vehicles equipped with turbocharger mounting bracket part number ME 227252, manufactured April 13, 2007 through February 7, 2008 with a defect of improperly aligned bolt holes in the mounting bracket

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,


Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail#70042890000412020669

A Daimler Company

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Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

August 4, 2008

(c)(1) **Manufacturer:** Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219

Brands: Sterling

(c)(2) **Vehicles identification:**

Model(s) affected: Sterling 360

Model Years affected: 2008

Manufacture Dates: April 13, 2007 - February 7, 2008

Basis for determining population: All vehicles manufactured during the listed dates with Turbocharger mounting bracket Part Number ME 227252

(c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 238

(c)(4) **Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** 100%

(c)(5) **Description of the defect:** Improperly aligned bolt holes on the turbocharger mounting bracket may lead to cracking in the turbocharger housing.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Exhaust gases can be released from the crack in the turbocharger housing, which in the worst case, could potentially lead to a thermal event.

(c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:**

Some level of turbocharger housing cracking was found on 9 Sterling 360 test vehicles in December 2007. Subsequently an investigation and analysis was initiated.
No field reports.

Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus notified MLIT of a defect on July 28, 2008

(c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:** Not Applicable

(c)(8) (i) **Remedial program:** The installation will be inspected, and the turbocharger bracket will be replaced with a redesigned bracket, which alleviates the bolt hole misalignment.. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America dealerships and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by Daimler Trucks North America to do their own warranty repairs
Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(ii) **Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date:** Customer notification will be by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately October 10, 2008
Dealer notification will be completed approximately October 10, 2008

(c)(9) **Information for tire recalls:** Not Applicable

(c)(10) **Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners:** Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c)(11) **Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-535