



Bus and trailer manufacturers

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Department: Compliance and Regulations
Extension : 2735
Contact : W.GEENS
Our reference : WG902.132

**National Highway Traffic Safety Adm.
NHTSA / ODI / NVS - 217
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20590
USA**

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

**F.a.o. Mr. George H. Person, Chief
Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation**

November 5, 2008

08V-581
(2 Pages)

Dear Mr. Person,

Re. : CATERPILLAR ARD Extension Pipes.

NHTSA Campaign Number : 08E-054

Van Hool N.V. are furnishing notification to NHTSA in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" as it applies to a defect relating to motor vehicle safety. This is a follow-up to Caterpillar's August 20th, 2008 submission (your file number 08E-054).

Description of the Defect

The extension pipes attached to the Aftertreatment Regeneration Device (ARD) may develop a hole, and heat and flame may escape during a regeneration of the Diesel Particulate Filter. This may result in a fire hazard.

Makes/Models/Model Years

Van Hool / C2045 - T2145 / 2008 - 2009

Identification of Affected Vehicles

For the 103 affected engines, mentioned in the Caterpillar notification to Van Hool N.V., we actually have identified :

- 76 engines equipping vehicles manufactured from November 21, 2007 to October 31, 2008 (42 units already delivered to the USA, 34 units still in the factory in Belgium)
- 12 stored engines waiting for equipping vehicles in production
- 15 engines destined to Van Hool, but still to be shipped by Caterpillar.

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Chronology of Events Leading to Recall

On July 9, 2008 Caterpillar became aware of a field failure that occurred on June 18, 2008, which resulted in a damaged hose, resulting in coolant loss. No fire was experienced. The Caterpillar dealer subsequently identified a hole in the extension pipe. Based on this failure and subsequent analysis, Caterpillar decided on August 13, 2008 to declare a Safety Defect and remedy the engines with a Safety Recall.

Description of Remedy.

In conversation with Caterpillar, the latter indicated that they will handle the customer notification and remedy procedure in view of initiating and administering this recall, as well as provide the required quarterly reporting.

Van Hool N.V. cooperate with Caterpillar in order to optimize the progress of this campaign. Together with their designated agent in the United States, ABC Companies, Inc., Van Hool N.V. will provide Caterpillar with vehicle, engine and owner information pertaining to this recall.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Wilfried Geens

Van Hool Engineering Department
Bus & Coach - Compliance and Regulations

cc. NHTSA : Mrs. Kelly Schuler@

cc. CATERPILLAR : Mr. Thomas S. Lane@

cc VH Mr Leopold Van Hool@, Mr Filip Van Hool@, Josef Deturck@, Mark Stroeykens@
L De Wit@, J Ruyts@, Luc Hendrickx@, Hugo De Roo@, Willy Van Rompuy@,

cc ABC Mrs Ashley Cornell@, Mrs Anne Archambault@, Mr Thomas D DeMatteo@, Mr. Louis Hotard@,