

DAIMLER



Daimler Trucks North America
Nasser Zamani
Senior Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

December 3, 2008

08V-666
(6 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-541, Bendix T-14 Brake Chamber

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 one Freightliner Custom Chassis X-Line Motorhome chassis equipped with Bendix Spicer Foundation, LLC (Bendix) T-14 brake chambers on ADB22X air disc brakes, manufactured June 4, 2008 with a defect in the brake chamber. Owner notification and vehicle remedy are complete.

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

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Nasser Zamani

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nasser Zamani'.

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA

Enclosure

Certified Mail# 7004 2890 0004 1202 1413

RECEIVED
2008 DECEMBER 16 - 3:00 PM
OFFICE OF RECALL
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland OR 97217-7699
503-745-6910 Phone
503-745-5544 Fax
Nasser.Zamani@Daimler.com

DAIMLER

Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

Date: December 3, 2008

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

Brands: Freightliner Custom Chassis

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

Model(s) affected: X-Line Motorhome Chassis

Model Years affected: 2009

Manufacture Date: June 4, 2008

Basis for determining population: FCCC chassis with Bendix Spicer Foundation, LLC (Bendix) T-14 brake chambers on ADB22X air disc brakes installed on 12,400 pound AF-12.4-3 axles

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Bendix Spicer Brake Foundation, LLC
901 Cleveland Street
Elyria, OH 44035
Contact: Dave Goodell
dave.goodell@bendix.com

(c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** 1

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

(c)(5) **Description of the defect:** See attached DIR from Bendix.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: See attached DIR from Bendix.

(c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** DTNA was notified of a service campaign to remedy a potential defect in T-14 brake chambers July 2008. Bendix decided a potential safety defect exists and filed a DIR August 4, 2008. Chassis sent to Tiffin Motorhomes, a second stage manufacturer, were examined and reworked prior to sale. One completed and sold motorhome was remedied by Bendix September 5, 2008.

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

(c)(8) (i) **Remedial program:** Chambers on affected vehicle were replaced.

Reimbursement Plan: Bendix remedied all affected T-14 chambers by replacing them at no charge.

(ii) **Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date:** Customer and dealer notification is complete.

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

(c)(10) **Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners:** Owner notified by Bendix.

(c)(11) **Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-541

Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC

A Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems and Dana Corporation Joint Venture

August 4, 2008

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL #7004 2890 0002 7928 9100

Mr. Dan Smith, Associate Administrator for Enforcement
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (W46-421)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Information Report
T-14 Service Brake Chamber

Dear Mr. Smith:

Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the item of motor vehicle equipment described below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Information Reports."

1. The name of the manufacturer is **Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC (BSFB)**.
2. The item of equipment containing the defect is the Bendix® T-14 service brake chamber used on some Bendix® ADB22X™ air disc brakes to be installed on steer axles of some trucks. The applicable part numbers for the subject T-14 service chambers are 5016652, 5016653, 5016656 and 5016657. The date codes marked by BSFB on the potentially affected products are May 20, 2008 through July 3, 2008, inclusive. The entire population of T-14 service brake chambers bearing these inclusive date codes are potentially defective and subject to this recall campaign.
3. The total number of defective service brake chambers BSFB received from its supplier with the manufacturing defect was 1,053. Upon discovery of the issue, BSFB took actions to quarantine 700 potentially affected service chambers at BSFB's facilities and at customer facilities prior to their first sale to the public. Therefore, the remaining number of potentially defective service chambers subject to this recall campaign is 353 units.
4. Attached hereto as Attachment A is a list of the names, addresses, and, where known, telephone numbers of each vehicle manufacturer that purchased Bendix® ADB 22X™ air disc brakes with potentially affected T-14 service brake chambers for installation or use on new motor vehicles in the United States.

5. BSFB has determined that a manufacturing defect exists in certain T-14 service brake chambers manufactured by BSFB's supplier having a BSFB-assigned product date code between May 20, 2008 and July 3, 2008. BSFB's supplier made a manufacturing process change by applying a lubricant as an assembly aid for the T-14 service chambers during the assembly process. BSFB has found that this type of lubricant does not evaporate as intended and can migrate between the pushrod base and the rubber diaphragm. This can cause the pushrod base to become misaligned and lodged in the chamber body after a brake application, resulting in the brake not fully releasing. If a brake on a steer axle remains partially applied, vehicle steer ability and stability can be affected on low coefficient (slippery) road surfaces. There have been no reports of any accidents or injuries related to this issue.
6. On April 4, 2008, the brake chamber supplier applied a lubricant during the assembly process for brake chambers made for BSFB. On May 19, 2008, BSFB received its first shipment of potentially defective brake chambers from the supplier. On July 1, 2008, BSFB was notified by one of its vehicle manufacturing customers of product failures at its facility. BSFB immediately launched its internal investigation. As part of its investigation and containment process, BSFB quarantined potentially affected chambers at its facilities and at its OEM customer facilities. On July 22, 2008, BSFB decided to conduct a service campaign to replace potentially affected chambers in the field while BSFB continued to conduct product and vehicle testing. On July 28, 2008, BSFB decided that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists with respect to the affected T-14 service brake chambers.
7. BSFB will provide a remedy without charge for all affected T-14 service brake chambers covered by this recall campaign.
8. BSFB has notified the vehicle manufacturers and has begun containment actions. BSFB intends to support the vehicle OEMs' recall campaigns of any vehicles already shipped or sold to the public with potentially affected chambers installed. BSFB has not sold any of the potentially affected brake chambers in the aftermarket.
9. BSFB will reimburse any owner of a vehicle equipped with an affected T-14 service brake chamber who incurred the cost of replacing the T-14 service brake chamber after May 20, 2008 specifically to address the defect identified in this Defect Report, unless the owner made or could have made a claim under warranty. BSFB will require adequate documentation that the owner actually owned the product and incurred the expense of replacing it to address the defect, consistent with the requirement of Section 573.13(d)(4) of NHTSA's regulations.

Mr. Dan Smith
T-14 Service Brake Chambers
August 4, 2008
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Please advise us of the NHTSA campaign number assigned to this matter. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Anthony C. LaPlaca
Secretary
440-329-9179 Direct
440-329-9265 Fax
anthony.laplaca@bendix.com

ACL:amh

cc: K. Schuler, NHTSA

Attachment

Attachment A

Vehicle Manufacturers

T-14 Service Brake Chambers

<u>CUSTOMER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>
Freightliner	Daimler Trucks North America 4747 N. Channel Ave Portland, OR 97217	503-745-8000
PACCAR	PACCAR Inc. 777 106th Avenue N.E. Bellevue, WA 98004	425-468-7400