

# DAIMLER

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February 24, 2009



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

09V-087  
(5 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-549, Caterpillar 08E-069 ARD Body

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 14 Sterling vehicles equipped with Caterpillar engines, manufactured February 18, 2008 through November 26, 2008. With reference to Caterpillar's Defect Information Report for recall 08E-069, a defect may exist in the Aftertreatment Regeneration Device body.

Attached are Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report and the Caterpillar Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nasser Zamani'.

Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA  
Enclosure  
Certified Mail# 7004 2890 0004 1202 1505

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: February 24, 2009

**(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:** A-Line & L-Line  
**Model Years affected:** 2008 & 2009  
**Manufacture Dates:** February 18, 2008 through November 26, 2008  
**Basis for determining population:** Engine serial numbers provided by Caterpillar were used to identify vehicles  
**Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:**  
Caterpillar Inc.  
100 N.E Adams St.  
Peoria, IL 61629-7150

**(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** 14

**(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** 15%

**(c)(5) Description of the defect:** See attached Defect Information Report 08E-069 from Caterpillar Inc.

**49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety:** See attached Defect Information Report 08E-069 from Caterpillar Inc.

**(c)(6) Chronology of principal events:** See attached Defect Information Report 08E-069 from Caterpillar Inc.

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

**(c)(8) (i) Remedial program:** Caterpillar will notify vehicle owners and administer this recall campaign. See attached Defect Information Report 08E-069 from Caterpillar Inc.

**Reimbursement Plan:** Caterpillar will notify vehicle owners and administer this recall campaign.

**(ii) Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date:** Caterpillar will notify vehicle owners and administer this recall campaign.

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

**(c)(10) Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners:** Caterpillar will notify vehicle owners and administer this recall campaign.

**(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-549



Caterpillar Inc.  
100 NE Adams Street  
Peoria, Illinois 61629-7150

December 10, 2008  
CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Dan Smith  
Associate Administrator  
Office of Defects Investigation Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh St. S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Smith,

In accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and the procedure prescribed in 49 CFR 573, attached is our notification of a safety defect that may exist with the Aftertreatment Regeneration Device Body used on certain Caterpillar 2007 and 2008 C15 Diesel Engines.

Please contact me if there are additional requirements regarding this notification.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Lane", written in a cursive style.

Thomas S. Lane  
Engine Product Safety & Compliance Manager  
Product Safety & Compliance

Phone (309) 675-6496  
Fax (309) 636-2911

Attached: OEM Contact List

- 1) MANUFACTURER  
Caterpillar Inc.  
100 N.E. Adams St.  
Peoria, IL. 61629-7150
  
- 2) COMPONENT IDENTIFICATION  
Model No.: 2007 and 2008 Model Year C15 Diesel Engines produced by Caterpillar Inc.  
Serial No. Prefixes: SDP  
Manufacturing Ship Dates: July 15, 2006 to current.  
Component Description: Aftertreatment Regeneration Device (ARD) Body used on certain 6 cylinder, 15L turbocharged and air-to-air aftercooled diesel engines of 472-585 Horsepower.
  
- 3) NUMBER OF ENGINES POTENTIALLY CONTAINING DEFECT  
1,585 engines shipped as of December 4, 2008, with 1,512 being in the US.
  
- 4) ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF ENGINES CONTAINING POTENTIAL DEFECT  
15% of the engine population identified in 3 over the lifetime of the engine.
  
- 5) DEFECT DESCRIPTION  
The Aftertreatment Regeneration Device (ARD) may develop a hole and heat and flame may escape during a regeneration of the Diesel Particulate Filter, which may result in a fire hazard.
  
- 6) PRINCIPAL EVENTS THAT WERE THE BASIS FOR MAKING RECALL DETERMINATION
  - a) On July 31, 2008 Caterpillar became aware of a field failure, which resulted in heat damaged wiring, resulting in loss of headlights and turn signals. No fire was experienced. The Caterpillar dealer subsequently identified a hole in the extension pipe.
  - b) Based on this failure and subsequent analysis, Caterpillar determined that this housing may have flame adjacent to the wall, causing temperatures exceeding material capabilities.
  - c) On December 3, 2008 Caterpillar decided to declare a Safety Defect and remedy the engines with a Safety Recall. PCA around the first of year.
  - d) The OEM Contact List is attached with volumes noted.
  
- 7) PROGRAM TO REMEDY DEFECT  
  
To remedy the defect, Caterpillar will issue the Safety Recall using a Safety Product Improvement Program (the Caterpillar process used) to replace the ARD body and upgrade the software (if necessary), with customer notification from Caterpillar.

## 08E- C15 ARD Body Recall OEM Contact List

### Number of engines in vehicles shipped to the vehicle manufacturer containing Defect

	<u>US</u>	<u>Canada</u>
Mr. Rod Curbo Product Safety Manager Peterbilt Motor Company 3200 Airport Road, P.O. Box 550 Denton, TX 76202-0550 Ph. (940) 566-7771 <a href="mailto:Rod.Curbo@PACCAR.com">Rod.Curbo@PACCAR.com</a>	961	64
Mr. Shawn Miller Product Safety Manager Kenworth Truck Company 10630 N.E. 38 <sup>th</sup> Place, P.O. Box 1000 Kirkland, Washington 98033 Ph. (425) 828-5201 <a href="mailto:Shawn.miller@PACCAR.com">Shawn.miller@PACCAR.com</a>	512	5
Mr. Steve Payne Freightliner LLC 4747 N. Channel Ave., P.O. Box 3849 Portland, OR 97208-3849 Ph. (503) 745-8063 <a href="mailto:steve.payne@freightliner.com">steve.payne@freightliner.com</a>	20	4
<u>Cat Dealers</u> Mr. Roger Hudson Sr. Service Engineer c/o Mr. Thomas S. Lane Engine Safety & Compliance Mgr. Caterpillar Inc. 100 NE Adams St. Peoria, Il. 61629-7150 Ph. (309) 675-6496 <a href="mailto:tom.lane@cat.com">tom.lane@cat.com</a>	19	
US Total	1512	
Canadian Total	73	
Recall Total	1,585	
Export	1	
Total Population	1,586	