

DAIMLER

09V-220
(8 pages)



June 3, 2009

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

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-553,
Haldex Quick Release Valve Diaphragm**

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 1,460 Freightliner, Sterling, Freightliner Custom Chassis, and Thomas Built Buses vehicles equipped with Haldex quick release valves manufactured May 27, 2008 through October 15, 2008 with a defect in valve diaphragm.

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# 7006 3450 0003 8408 4943

RECEIVED
2009 JUN 12 P 1:17
OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

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

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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

June 3, 2009

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

Brands: Freightliner, Sterling, Freightliner Custom Chassis, Thomas Built Buses

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

Model(s) affected: Freightliner: Cascadia, Columbia, FLD, M2
Sterling, 7500, 8500, 9500
Freightliner Custom Chassis B2 106 Chassis (used on Thomas Built Buses school buses)

Model Years affected: 2009 and 2010

Manufacture Dates: Valve Manufacture dates, May 27, 2008 through October 15, 2008
Vehicle Manufacture dates, June 11, 2008 through December 16, 2008

Basis for determining population: All units manufactured with specific QR valves from time of receipt of first parts shipment from Meritor Wabco containing potentially defective valves until time suspect valves were quarantined at plants and returned to Meritor Wabco.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Valve Manufactured by	Valve Supplied to DTNA by
Haldex Brake products Corp	Meritor Wabco
2702 N State Street	845 Lindbergh Court
Iola, Kansas 66749	Hebron, KY 41048

(c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 1,460

Model	Qty
FTL - Cascadia	855
FTL - Columbia	174
FTL - FLD	3
FTL - M2	29
STL - 7500	1
STL - 8500	2
STL - 9500	338
B2 106 Chassis (TBB School Bus)	58

(c)(4) **Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** 70%

(c)(5) **Description of the defect:** Please see "What is the Problem?" on page 2 of 5 of attached Meritor Wabco Safety Defect Notice dated May 7, 2009.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Please see "What are the Risks to Motor Vehicle Safety?" on page 2 of 5 of attached Meritor Wabco Safety Defect Notice dated May 7, 2009.

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- (c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** May 7, 2009 DTNA received notice from Meritor Wabco (see attached Meritor Wabco Safety Defect Notice.
- (c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:** Not Applicable
- (c)(8) (i) **Remedial program:** Potentially defective valves will be replaced. 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 August 7, 2009
Dealer notification will be completed approximately August 7, 2009
- (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-553

May 7, 2009

Mr. Nasser Zamani
Senior Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Affairs
Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N Channel Avenue
Portland, OR 97217

Re: **Safety Defect Notice** – Certain Haldex Brake Products Corp. Quick Release Valves
Distributed by Meritor WABCO (NHTSA Recall No. 09E-004); Meritor WABCO Campaign ID
Number C9AA

Dear Meritor WABCO Customer:

Meritor WABCO has been notified by Haldex Brake Products Corp. that HALDEX has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain quick release valves manufactured by Haldex between May 27, 2008 and October 15, 2008 for use in heavy duty, commercial vehicle braking system applications. Some of these parts were distributed by Meritor WABCO to OEM customers. Our records indicate that you may have received some of the suspect quick release valves. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of Haldex and Meritor WABCO's plan for addressing this defect.

What Products are Affected?

The affected products were manufactured by Haldex and distributed by Meritor WABCO for installation as original equipment under the following part numbers:

973 899 011 0	934 099 010 0
973 899 003 0	934 099 020 0

The suspect quick release valves are identified by production date codes of 148 through 289, corresponding to dates of manufacture from May 27, 2008 through October 15, 2008. The part numbers, quantities and shipment records are attached with this notification.

Part numbers and date codes may be located on the body of the part or on a name tag as illustrated on the enclosed service instructions. Part numbers 973 899 003 0 and 9738990110 are normally located in the area of the front axle and are used in the steer axle brake circuit. Part numbers 934 099 010 0 and 934 099 020 0 normally operate in the park brake circuit and are located near axles with spring brake chambers.

NOTE: Not all quick release valves are affected. This recall only involves quick release valves with production date codes of 148 through 289, as described in the attached Haldex Service Bulletin - Quick Release Valve Date Code Identification, corresponding to dates of manufacture from May 27, 2008 through October 15, 2008.

What is the Problem?

Haldex has informed Meritor WABCO that the suspect quick release valves contain a rubber diaphragm that may delaminate and may cause leakage levels past and/or through the diaphragm in excess of permissible specifications, or could cause a restriction or blocking of the air flow, thereby affecting pressure delivery and release to the foundation brakes.

What are the Risks to Motor Vehicle Safety?

According to Haldex, the increased QRV air pressure leakage levels could eventually deteriorate to the point that vehicle braking performance could be degraded, and could contribute to a vehicle crash.

According to Haldex, certain precautions can be taken to detect a degradation in the performance of the vehicle's braking system. These precautions include the observation and detection of air pressure leakage from the QRV, especially if the leakage levels are significant. In addition, higher leakage incidence is detectable or noticeable by unusual or prolonged air compressor run time, air pressure dash gage readings (if so equipped), low pressure warning, and observation of dragging drive axle / trailer axle spring brakes. It should be noted that air pressure dash gages and low pressure warning indicators are basic requirements of a commercial vehicle air brake system. In addition, pre-trip inspections and driver walk-around inspections could be effective in detecting unusual air system leakage conditions.

What Should the Vehicle Manufacturer Do?

If the subject products were installed as original equipment on vehicles you manufactured, and you agree that they contain a safety defect, you must notify the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Part 573. It is critical that the NHTSA guidelines are followed in a timely manner and that your customers are notified to conduct the remedy described below.

Meritor WABCO recommends that owners of vehicles equipped with the suspect quick release valves be instructed to inspect the production date code on the valve and arrange to have any suspect valves replaced at an authorized repair facility. The attached Haldex Service Bulletins describe the procedure for [Date Code Identification](#) and provide [Replacement Instructions](#).

With respect to suspect products that remain in your inventory, Meritor WABCO will provide replacement parts prior to delivery to your customers, as described below.

What will Haldex and Meritor WABCO do?

Parts in Customers' Vehicles. Meritor WABCO will reimburse you for standard labor costs to remove and replace defective quick release valves in the field in accordance with the instructions under the heading, "Labor Allowance," (see below). Replacement parts for these repairs should be obtained directly from Haldex as described under "Replacement Parts."

Replacement Parts

Replacement parts are currently available. Vehicle manufacturers' (OEM) distribution facilities should obtain replacement quick release valves by contacting Haldex by any of the below methods:

Terri Stewart
TerriL.Stewart@Haldex.com
Phone: 620-365-6911 ext 1357
Fax: 816-801-2993
Haldex Brake Products Corp.
2702 N. State Street
Iola, Kansas 66749

Customer part number cross reference is included in the shipping records attached with this notification. Any labeling or packaging specifics for these replacement parts should be provided directly to Haldex.

Dealers should order replacement parts from the vehicle manufacturers parts distribution centers (PDC). Haldex will ship replacement service kits directly to the locations that the vehicle manufacturer specifies.

For questions relating to replacement parts delivery, please contact Haldex directly.

Removed Material Disposition

Removed quick release valves are to be returned to Haldex

Haldex Brake Products Corp.
2702 N. State Street
Iola, Kansas 66749

or the dealer and/or other service facility must provide evidence of destruction. For questions relating to parts disposition, please contact Terri Stewart of Haldex via Phone: 620-365-6911 ex. 1357 or Email: TerriL.Stewart@Haldex.com.

Labor Allowance

The following are the details of labor allowances available to vehicle manufacturers' (OEM):

- Meritor WABCO will accept as previously agreed upon standard repair time (SRT) with the individual vehicle manufacturer (OEM).
- Vehicle manufacturers are requested to communicate their SRT for this program to Jim Nemeth via Phone: 1-248-435-1279 or Email: jim.nemeth@arvinmeritor.com, to ensure proper claim processing.

Dealers should follow their OEM procedures for warranty claims to obtain reimbursement for labor expenses associated with inspection and replacement of these valves.

To facilitate this process, we request that you provide VIN information and Vehicle In-Service Dates for the corresponding quick release valve date codes for tracking field actions. Please forward this information to:

Anne Balkcom
Anne.L.Balkcom@MeritorWABCO.com
Senior Manager – Quality
Ph 859-525-3676 Fax 859-746-7875

Meritor WABCO will accept warranty claims for inspecting and replacing the suspect valves associated with this notice directly from the vehicle manufacturers (OEM). In order to receive proper credit, such warranty claims must contain the following information at the time of submission:

- Reference to Meritor WABCO Campaign ID Number **C9AA**
- Reference to NHTSA Campaign ID Number : **09E-004**
- Reference to the vehicle manufacturer's campaign number (optional)
- 17-digit vehicle identification number (VIN)
- Valve date code
- Vehicle owner's name, address, and telephone number
- Vehicle in-service date
- Vehicle repair date
- Vehicle mileage at the time of repair
- Dealer work order number
- Repairing facility name, address, and telephone number
- Total labor hours required to perform the work, not to exceed agreed formula
- Repair facilities hourly rate
- Number of valves replaced and shipped to Haldex facility or evidence of destruction.
- Tracking number for shipment of returned suspect quick release valves (if returned) .

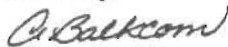
Failure to provide complete information will delay processing of the warranty claim.

For questions relating to warranty claims, please contact Jim Nemeth via Phone: 1-248-435-1279 or Email: jim.nemeth@arvinmeritor.com.

* * *

We regret any inconvenience that this situation may cause. Meritor WABCO wants to assure you that we are concerned for customer safety and your continued satisfaction with our products.

Sincerely,



Anne Balkcom
Sr. Mgr. - Quality Assurance
Meritor WABCO Vehicle Control Systems
845 Lindbergh Court
Hebron, KY 41048
Ph 859.525.3676 Cell 859.380.7516
Anne.Balkcom@MeritorWabco.com

Attachments:

1. Customer Shipment Information
2. Haldex Service Bulletin - Quick Release Valve Date Code Identification
3. Haldex Service Bulletin - Quick Release Valve Replacement Instructions