

DAIMLER



June 2, 2009

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

09V-226
(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-551,
Western Star Cab Crossmember / Power Cable Clearance**

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 43 Western Star 4900 vehicles equipped with standard height cabs, a cab mounted battery disconnect switch, and DD15 engines, manufactured November 10, 2008 through May 7, 2009 with a defect in new style forward cab crossmember which reduces clearance for the battery disconnect power cables.

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 4936

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OFFICE OF DEFECTS
NHTSA

A Daimler Company

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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

June 2, 2009

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

Brands: Western Star

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

Model(s) affected: 4900

Model Years affected: 2009 and 2010

Manufacture Dates: November 10, 2008 through May 7, 2009

Basis for determining population: Standard cab height vehicles built with DD15 engines and a battery disconnect switch located inside the cab

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: Not Applicable

(c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 43

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

(c)(5) **Description of the defect:** New forward cab crossmember design reduced clearance for cab mounted battery disconnect switch power cables on standard cab height vehicles. During cab articulation the new crossmember may pinch power cables against cab.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Cables that become pinched between the cab and forward cab crossmember could short to ground and potentially overheat resulting in injury to vehicle occupants.

(c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** November 2008, new cab support forward crossmember design placed into production. February 2009, field failure identified potential interference with new forward cab crossmember and existing power cable. Running change implemented to reduce potential for interference between crossmember and power cable.

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

(c)(8) (i) **Remedial program:** Power cables will be removed and reinstalled in a new location. Damaged cables 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-551