

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

October 8, 2009

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 09C-4, EPA07 DD15 Grid Heater

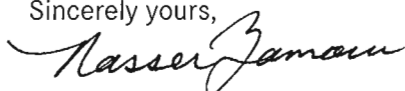
Mr. Smith

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 18,067 Freightliner, Sterling, and Western Star vehicles manufactured February 27, 2006 through October 2, 2009, and equipped with EPA07 DD15 engines assembled with a grid heater which may short circuit and overheat potentially resulting in a fire in the engine compartment.

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 0000 3866 7690

A Daimler Company

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DAIMLER

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

October 8, 2009

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

Brands: Freightliner, Sterling, Western Star

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: Freightliner: Cascadia, Columbia, and Century
Sterling: 8500, and 9500
Western Star: 4900

Model Years affected: 2007 through 2010

Manufacture Dates: February 27, 2006 through October 2, 2009

Basis for determining population: Vehicles equipped with DD15 EPA07 engines
manufactured with grid heaters January 1, 2007 through October 5, 2009

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: Not Applicable

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: 18,067

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

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Increased internal grid heater resistance caused by improperly tightened screws may melt the solder on the grid heater circuit board leading to a short circuit.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: A short circuited grid heater could result in a vehicle fire and injury to vehicle occupants.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: Feb 2009 – first grid heater with thermal damage received. Five additional damaged units were received through April 15th.

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

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: The engine control logic will be reprogrammed to provide cold weather starting without the need of a grid heater. Wiring to the grid heater will be removed. Future production engines will not be equipped with a grid heater. Repairs will be performed by Detroit Diesel Corporation (DDC) Authorized Repair Facilities and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by DDC to do their own warranty repairs

Reimbursement Plan: See Attached.

(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 October 22, 2009
Dealer notification was completed October 6, 2009

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

(c)(10) Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners: See Attached.

(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number: 09C-4