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

November 20, 2009

**09V-452
(3 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-566, Sterling 360 Air Intake Duct

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 2,333 Sterling 360 vehicles manufactured January 11, 2006 through October 31, 2008 with insufficient rubber cushions which may allow the air intake duct to separate from the vehicle.

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 7737

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland OR 97217-7699
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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

November 20, 2009

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Mitsubishi FUSO Truck and Bus Corp.
Kanribu Gijutsu-keikaku
Kaihatsu Honbu
10 Okura-cho Nakahara-ku
211-8522 Kawasaki-shi Kanagawa, Japan

Brand Name Owner: Daimler Trucks North America LLC
(Importer) P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, OR 97208

Designated Agent: Mitsubishi FUSO Truck of America, Inc.
2015 Center Square Road
Logan Twp., NJ 08085
(856) 467-4500

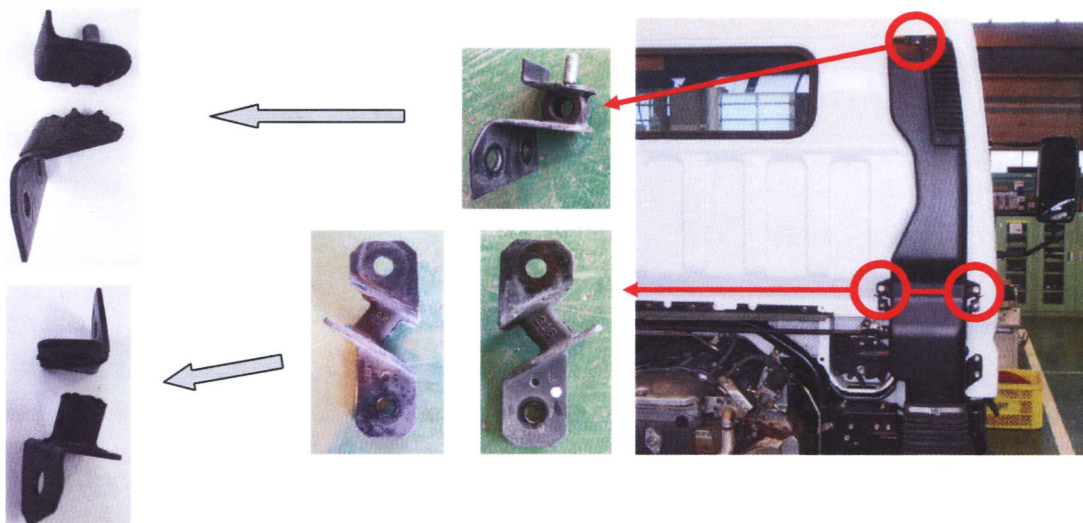
Brands: Sterling

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:
Model(s) affected: 360
Model Years affected: 2007 through 2009
Manufacture Dates: January 11, 2006 through October 31, 2008
Basis for determining population: Affected vehicle list provided by Mitsubishi FUSO Truck and Bus Corp
Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: Not Applicable

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: 2,333

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

(c)(5) Description of the defect: On affected vehicles, the weather resistance properties of the air intake duct rubber cushions is insufficient. During normal vehicle operation, the rubber cushions deteriorate and crack, causing abnormal noise. In the worst case, all of the rubber cushions could crack and break, allowing the air intake duct to separate from the vehicle.



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49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: An air intake duct separating from a vehicle may create a road hazard potentially resulting in a crash .

- (c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** On November 5, 2009 Mitsubishi FUSO Truck and Bus Corp (MFTBC) notified DTNA that it had decided to conduct a service campaign to address an issue related to air intake ducts separating from vehicles.
On November 12, 2009 MFTBC notified DTNA that, upon further review, it had determined that an air intake duct separating from a vehicle could create a road hazard, and therefore potentially affected motor vehicle safety.
- (c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:** Not Applicable
- (c)(8) **(i) Remedial program:** Air intake duct rubber cushions will be replace with more robust cushions. 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 February 19, 2010
Dealer notification will be completed approximately February 17, 2010
- (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-566