

Daimler Trucks North America LLC

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
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August 2009
FL553AB
NHTSA #09V-220

Subject: Haldex Quick Release Valves

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. This notice is also sent in accordance with the Canadian Motor Vehicles Safety Act.

Daimler Trucks North America LLC, on behalf of its Freightliner Trucks Division, wholly owned subsidiaries, Sterling Truck Corporation and Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Freightliner Business Class M2, Cascadia, Columbia, and FLD vehicles; Sterling A/L-Line vehicles; and Freightliner Custom Chassis B2 school bus chassis (Thomas Built Buses C2 Saf-T-Liner) manufactured from June 11, 2008, through December 16, 2008.

The rubber diaphragm in certain Haldex quick release valves may delaminate, causing leakage past and/or through the diaphragm in excess of specifications or could restrict or block air flow. This may affect pressure delivery and release to the service brakes, degrading brake performance and resulting in a possible vehicle crash.

Quick release valves will be inspected and affected valves will be replaced.

Parts are now available for authorized dealers to order. Contact your authorized dealer to arrange to have the recall performed and to ensure that parts are available at the dealership. To locate a dealer, search online at www.FreightlinerTrucks.com or contact the Warranty Campaigns Department for assistance.

When you contact your dealer, refer to campaign number **FL553AB**. Once kit(s) are received at the dealership, the Recall should take just under an hour and will be performed at no charge to you.

IMPORTANT: When the Recall has been completed, please ensure that a label has been affixed to your vehicle referencing **FL553AB**.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s) which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner. If you have leased this vehicle, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to the lessee within 10 days. If you are a subsequent stage manufacturer, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to your distributors and retail outlets within five working days. If you have paid to have this recall condition corrected prior to this notice, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement. Please see the reverse side of this notice for details.

If you are not able to have the defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, which is not longer than 60 days after you tender the vehicle for repair, please contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, e-mail address DTNA.Warranty.Campaigns@Daimler.com, or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) FTL-HELP or (800) STL-HELP, after normal business hours. You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or to <http://www.safercar.gov>. If your vehicle is involved in the Canadian portion, you may wish to notify Transport Canada, ASFAD, Place de Ville Tower C, 330 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5, or phone (800) 333-0510.

We regret any inconvenience this action may cause but feel certain you understand our interest in motor vehicle safety.

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT

Enclosure

Reimbursement to Customers for Repairs Performed Prior to Recall

If you have already **paid** to have this recall condition corrected you may be eligible to receive reimbursement.

Requests for reimbursement may include parts and labor. Reimbursement may be limited to the amount the repair would have cost if completed by an authorized Freightliner LLC dealer. The following documentation must be presented to your dealer for consideration for reimbursement.

Please provide original or clear copies of all receipts, invoices, and repair orders that show:

- The name and address of the person who paid for the repair.
- The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of the vehicle that was repaired.
- What problem occurred, what repair was done, when the repair was done.
- Who repaired the vehicle.
- The total cost of the repair expense that is being claimed.
- Proof of payment for the repair (such as the front and back of a cancelled check or a credit card receipt).

Reimbursement will be made by check from your Freightliner LLC dealer.

Please speak with your Freightliner LLC authorized dealer concerning this matter.