



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 25, 2011

MR. NASSER ZAMANI  
MANAGER, COMPLIANCE AND  
REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA  
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE  
PORTLAND, OR 97217-3849

NVS-215dgl  
11V-193

SUBJECT: TIE ROD ENDS

DEAR MR. ZAMANI:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Trucks North America's (DTNA) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**  
STERLING/BULLET/2008-2009

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 11V-193

**Mfg's Report Date:** March 23, 2011

**Components:** STEERING: LINKAGES: TIE ROD ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2,564

**Summary:**

DAIMLER TRUCKS IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2008 AND 2009 STERLING BULLET VEHICLES MANUFACTURED FROM OCTOBER 15, 2007, THROUGH NOVEMBER 10, 2008. THE LEFT OUTER TIE ROD END MAY FRACTURE DUE TO A MISALIGNMENT CONDITION. UNDER CERTAIN DRIVING CONDITIONS, THE MISALIGNMENT MAY LEAD TO A WEAKENING AND EVENTUAL FRACTURE OF THE LEFT OUTER TIE ROD BALL STUD.

**Consequence:**

A FRACTURED TIE ROD END COULD CAUSE A LOSS OF DIRECTIONAL STEERING STABILITY INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

DAIMLER TRUCKS WILL NOTIFY OWNERS WITH A TWO PART LETTER REGARDING THIS RECALL CAMPAIGN AND TO INFORM OWNERS OF THE UPCOMING REMEDY CORRECTION WHEN REPLACEMENT PARTS ARE AVAILABLE. THIS SERVICE WILL BE PERFORMED FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2011. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DAIMLER TRUCKS AT 1-800-547-0712.

**Notes:**

DAIMLER TRUCKS' RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS FL-588. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly Schuber".

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement