



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 26, 2011

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

NVS-215dgl
11V-289

SUBJECT: FIFTH WHEEL LOCK

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:

FREIGHTLINER/BUSINESS CLASS M2/2011
FREIGHTLINER/CASCADIA/2011-2012
FREIGHTLINER/CORONADO/2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-289

Mfg's Report Date: May 13, 2011

Components: TRAILER HITCHES: FIFTH WHEEL ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 2,281

Summary:

DTNA IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2011 BUSINESS CLASS M2, AND CORONADO, MODEL YEAR 2011-2012 CASCADIA VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH FONTAINE ULTRA LT FIFTH WHEELS AND MANUFACTURED FROM APRIL 7, 2010, THROUGH MARCH 7, 2011. DURING THE COUPLING PROCESS ON VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH PRE-MODIFICATION FONTAINE ULTRA LT FIFTH WHEELS, IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE DRIVER TO PARTIALLY CLOSE THE FIFTH WHEEL LOCK, AND IF RELYING ON A TUG TEST (PULL TEST), AND NOT PERFORMING THE REQUIRED VISUAL INSPECTION, THINK THAT THE FIFTH WHEEL LOCK IS PROPERLY COUPLED TO THE TRAILER KING PIN, WHEN IN FACT, IT IS NOT.

Consequence:

IF THE TRACTOR IS NOT FULLY CONNECTED TO THE TRAILER, THE TRAILER MAY DISENGAGE WHILE IN USE, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

FONTAINE NOTIFIED OWNERS IN FEBRUARY 2011, AND IS HANDLING THE REMEDY FOR THIS CAMPAIGN. FONTAINE IS IN THE PROCESS OF RETROFITTING ALL AFFECTED VEHICLES, FREE OF CHARGE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT FONTAINE AT 1-800-874-9780 OR DTNA AT 1-800-547-0712.

Notes:

DTNA'S SAFETY RECALL NUMBER FL-608. 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).

This recall was the subject of a Preliminary Evaluation, PE11-012, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

It is our understanding that notification to owners began by Fontaine during February 2011, prior to our review of the owner notification letter. In the future, please ensure this office reviews a draft of proposed owner notification letter at least five business days before you intend to mail those letters. Should it become necessary for DTNA to do a renotification, the follow-up notification must be submitted to this office for review and it must comply with the requirements of Part 577.5, "Notification pursuant to a manufacturer's decision" and Part 577.10, "Follow-up notification."

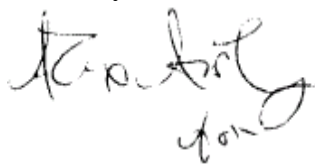
Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

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 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, or by email at Delia.Lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at 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, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian".

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