



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

November 30, 2011

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

NVS-215dgl  
11V-558

**SUBJECT: AXLE ASSEMBLIES/MERITOR**

**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:**  
WESTERN STAR/4900/2011

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 11V-558

**Mfg's Report Date:** November 16, 2011

**Components:** POWER TRAIN: AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 6

**Summary:**

DAIMLER TRUCKS IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2011 WESTERN STAR 4900 TRUCKS, MANUFACTURED FROM DECEMBER 14, 2010, THROUGH JANUARY 26, 2011, EQUIPPED WITH MERITOR AXLE ASSEMBLIES. THE WELD THAT ATTACHES A TOWER BRACKET TO THE HOUSING IN SUSPECT ASSEMBLIES MAY CRACK AS A RESULT OF IMPROPER WELDING PROCEDURES.

**Consequence:**

DETACHMENT OF THE BRACKET MAY LEAD TO A LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

DAIMLER TRUCKS DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE AXLES FOR CRACKS AND THE WELDS WILL BE REPAIRED AS NECESSARY FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 17, 2012. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DAIMLER TRUCKS TOLL-FREE AT 1-800-547-0712.

**Notes:**

DAIMLER TRUCKS' SAFETY RECALL NUMBER IS FL-618. 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).

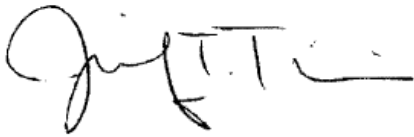
Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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 1-202-366-9525, 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 black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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