

**Volvo Trucks North America**

May 18, 2012

**Subject: Meritor Safety Recall C11AE
NHTSA Recall Notice Number 11E-012-~~Revised~~ Count****Attention:**Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590**Submitted via Email to Delia Lopez**

The following information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a defect relating to motor vehicle safety.

573.6(c)(1)Volvo Trucks North America ("Volvo")
7900 National Service Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27409**573.6(c)(2)**

Vehicles manufactured using RPL25, 18MXL, and 18N coupling shafts and slipshafts (main) driveline assemblies produced at Meritor's Maxton NC facility with tubing that had been processed by AcelorMittal at its Marion Ohio facility.

The selection of vehicles was based on information provided by Meritor.

Vehicle Models and Model Years include: 2012 VHD, VNL, and VNM

573.6(c)(3)

There are approximately ~~four hundred fifty two~~ **three hundred and forty-one (341)** vehicles affected which were produced for sale in the United States.

573.6(c)(4)

The percentage of the vehicles expected to contain the defect is unknown.



573.6(c)(5)

According to Meritor, "The tubing supplied by ArcelorMittal has non conforming seam weld with insufficient bonding of the material. This can result in seam weld fracture when torque is applied. Once the tube seam weld is fractured, the driveline may become inoperable," which may result in a disabled vehicle or debris from the driveline on the roadway which can increase the risk of a vehicle crash.

573.6 (c)(6)

Chronology of principle events that were the basis for the determination:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 3/4/11 | Volvo started receiving reports of driveline failures on new vehicles. Safety investigation opened. |
| 3/8/11 | Volvo notifies Meritor of reports of driveline failures. |
| 3/10/11 | Stop delivery issued on vehicles with Meritor drivelines at Volvo's manufacturing facility in Virginia. |
| 5/13/11 | Volvo received a letter from Meritor regarding the safety related defect and recall. |
| 5/19/11 | NHTSA notified that Volvo will initiate a voluntary safety recall to address the suspect drivelines. |

573.6(c)(7)

Not applicable

573.6(c)(8)

Volvo will initiate a voluntary owner notification, and recall all affected vehicles as advised by Meritor. The recall repair will consist of replacing the suspect driveline.

The number, which has been assigned to this recall by Volvo, is **RVXX1104**.

Reimbursement for cost incurred by the owner for "prenotification remedies" will be addressed on a case-by-case basis according to the "General Plan for Reimbursement of Pre-notification Remedies" which was published December 8th, 2004.



A Safety Recall Alert will be released to dealers on or before May 23, 2011, which informs the dealers of the recall. Owner letters will be mailed on or before July 1, 2011. An advance copy of the owner letter will be submitted to NHTSA for review and approval prior to release to the owners.

If there are any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim L. LaFon", followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that extends across the page.

Tim L. LaFon
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
Volvo Trucks North America
7900 National Service Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27409
timothy.lafon@volvo.com
(336) 393-2233