

DAIMLER

Daimler Trucks North America
Nasser Zamani
Senior Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

March 17, 2011

Dan Smith
Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

**Re: Defect Information Report – Supplemental Report No. 1
11V-109, FL-589, Hendrickson Airliner Mono Leaf Suspension Springs
Pre-Recall Notice**

Mr. Smith,

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith submits supplemental defect information and copies of documents distributed to dealers and purchasers.

(c) (10) Copy of Communications sent to Owners and Dealers is attached.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure

A Daimler Company

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March 2011
FL589
Pre-Recall Notice
NHTSA # 11V-109

Subject: Hendrickson AirLiner Mono Leaf Suspension Springs

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

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA), on behalf of its Freightliner Trucks Division, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on certain Freightliner Argosy, Cascadia, and Coronado vehicles manufactured January 4, 2010, through November 30, 2010 with Hendrickson AirLiner Mono Leaf Suspension Springs.

Certain vehicles may have been built with rear suspension springs that may fracture through the center bolt hole after assembly due to hydrogen in the spring material. Hydrogen in the spring material combined with the U-bolt installation procedure at the Cleveland manufacturing plant may result in hydrogen induced or assisted cracking. If undetected, over time the rear end of the spring may separate from the vehicle, resulting in hazardous road debris.

This is the first of two letters you will receive regarding this subject. This letter is to inform you of an upcoming Recall to correct the issue noted above. At this time, replacement parts are not yet available for dealers to order. As soon as parts are available, you will receive a second notice. When you receive it, please contact your authorized Daimler Trucks North America dealer to schedule the recall for your vehicle. You may continue to operate your vehicle.

In the interim, please inspect the springs as part of your daily pre-trip inspection. See the reverse side of this notice for instructions. Should you find a crack on any of the four rear springs, contact a DTNA dealer for diagnosis and appropriate repair.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s), which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner.

If you have questions about this Recall, 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 after normal business hours. 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, you may 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>.

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

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT
Enclosure

Inspection

1. Park the vehicle on a level surface. Shut down the engine, set the parking brake, and chock the tires.
2. From the underside of the rear suspension, inspect the spring between the U-bolts at the clamp group. Remove any debris from the area of the spring, then using a flashlight, inspect the surface of the spring for any cracks and or separation. See **Fig. 1**.
3. If cracks are not present no further action is required. If a crack is found on any spring, contact a DTNA dealer for diagnosis and appropriate repair.

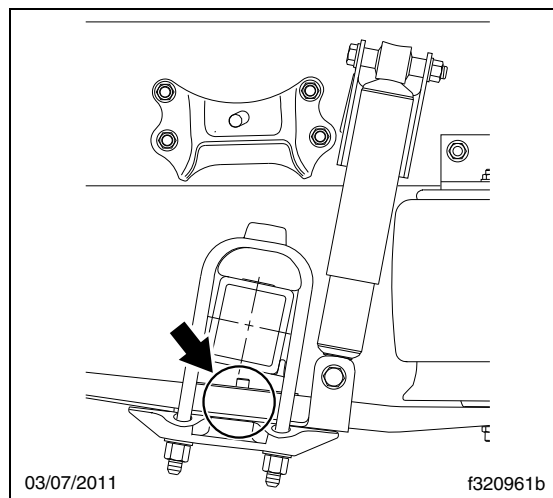


Fig. 1, Inspection Area