



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 5, 2012

MR. NASSER ZAMANI
SENIOR MANGER COMPLIANCE
AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE
PORTLAND, OR 97217-7699

NVS-215et
12V-235

Subject: POWER CABLE CLEARANCE

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 defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal law.

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/4900/2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-235

Mfg's Report Date: May 22, 2012

Components: ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:BATTERY:CABLES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 12

Summary:

DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA (DTNA) IS RECALLING 12 MY 2009 WESTERN STAR 4900 TRUCKS BUILT WITH DD15 ENGINES. A NEW FORWARD CAB CROSSMEMBER DESIGN REDUCED CLEARANCE FOR CAB MOUNTED BATTERY DISCONNECT SWITCH POWER CABLES ON STANDARD CAB HEIGHT VEHICLES. DURING CAB ARTICULATION, THE NEW CROSSMEMBER MAY PINCH POWER CABLES AGAINST THE CAB.

Consequence:

CABLES THAT BECOME PINCHED BETWEEN THE CAB AND FORWARD CAB CROSSMEMBER COULD SHORT TO GROUND AND POTENTIALLY OVERHEAT RESULTING IN A VEHICLE FIRE AND INJURY TO VEHICLE OCCUPANTS.

Remedy:

DTNA WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL REMOVE THE CABLES AND REINSTALL THEM IN A NEW SAFE LOCATION. DAMAGED CABLES WILL BE REPLACED. BOTH WILL BE DONE FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR BEFORE JULY 22, 2012. THIS RECALL IS AN EXPANSION OF RECALL 09V-226. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DAIMLER TRUCKS TOLL FREE AT 1-800-547-0712.

Notes:

DAIMLER TRUCKS RECALL NO. FL-551. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO 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 provide the following additional information and 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 Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at Edison.Thompson@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 black ink, appearing to read "J. Timian", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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