



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 22, 2012

Mr. NASSER ZAMANI
DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE
PO BOX 3849
PORTLAND, OR 97217-3849

NVS-215ET
12V-405

Subject: Perpendicular Air Tank Mounting Brackets

Dear Mr. ZAMANI:

This letter serves to acknowledge DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) 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/114SD/2009-2012
FREIGHTLINER/BUSINESS CLASS M2/2009-2012
FREIGHTLINER/CASCADIA/2009-2012
FREIGHTLINER/CORONADO/2009-2012
STERLING/9500/2009-2012
WESTERN STAR/4700/2009-2012

Mfr's Report Date: August 15, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-405

Components:

EQUIPMENT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,663

Problem Description:

Daimler Trucks North America (DTNA) is recalling certain model year 2009-2012 Freightliner, Sterling, and Western Star vehicles manufactured from July 7, 2008, through December 15, 2011, and equipped with perpendicular air tank mounting brackets. The air tank mounting brackets may develop cracks which can lead to the air tank brackets separating from the frame rail. The air tanks may also separate from the vehicle.

Consequence:

Air tanks that become separated from a moving vehicle may create a road debris hazard, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

DTNA will notify owners, and dealers will replace the air mounting brackets, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin on, or before, October 15, 2012. Owners may contact Daimler Trucks North America toll free at 1-800-547-0712.

Notes:

DTNA's recall campaign number is FL-631. Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



Per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier name, contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the air tank mounting brackets.

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 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian".

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