



Mack Trucks, Inc.

December 6, 2012

**Subject: New Safety Recall (SC0361, FAW Front Axle Beam)
Revised, replaces October 17, 2012 Notice, changes are in bold**

Attention:

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Submitted via Email

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)

Mack Trucks, Inc. ("Mack Trucks")
7900 National Service Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27409

573.6(c)(2)

Certain Mack model vehicles manufactured from February 1, 2002 to December 22, 2004

The selection of vehicles was based on the axle beam part number and the date of vehicle manufacture.

Affected Models and Model Years:

2002-2005: MR and LE models

573.6(c)(3)

There are approximately eight thousand eight hundred eighty two (8,882) vehicles affected by the recall of which there are eight thousand three hundred thirty three (8,333) vehicles in total were sold in the United States.

573.6(c)(4)

The percentage of the vehicles containing the defect is unknown.



573.6(c)(5)

Due to manufacturing defects associated with recall SC0341 (reference NHTSA # 09V-240), over time the load and cycling of the load in certain applications may potentially result in fatigue cracks. Fatigue cracks can propagate and result in complete fracture of the axle beam. If complete fracture occurs, the driver may lose control of the vehicle, which can result in a vehicle crash.

573.6 (c)(6)

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

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 9/9/11 | Customer complaint received regarding axle beam failure |
| 9/19/11 | Additional vehicle inspections conducted |
| 9/21/11 | Strain gauge measurements taken |
| 11/10/11 | Magnetic Particle inspections incorporated as a part of field analysis |
| 12/19/11 | Investigation complete |
| 1/6/12 | Meeting held to review investigation findings, proposed scope, and repair methods |
| 1/6/12 | Information submitted to Product Safety Committee for recommendation |
| 1/12/12 | Mack Trucks determines that a safety related defect exists in certain vehicles |
| 1/18/12 | Mack Trucks notifies NHTSA of the defect and that a voluntary safety recall will be performed to address the issue |
| 2/7/12 | Clarification provided on inspections and repairs |
| 11/27/12 | NHTSA requests clarification on recall |
| 12/4/12 | Mack submits revised 573 Report to NHTSA |

573.6(c)(7)

Not applicable



573.6(c)(8)

Mack Trucks has initiated a voluntary owner notification, and is recalling all affected vehicles.

The number, which has been assigned to this recall by Mack Trucks, is **SC0361**.

A Safety Recall Alert was **released** to dealers on January 24, 2012, which **informed** the dealers of the recall.

The recall repair consists of providing a magnetic particle inspection and replacement of the axle beam if a crack or linear indication is found regardless of the application that the vehicle is being used in. Inspection of vehicles began in March 2012 when owners of the affected vehicles were notified and instructed to contact Mack to schedule an appointment to have their vehicle inspected.

For vehicles identified as being used in the refuse front loader application, the axle beam will be replaced free of charge regardless of whether a crack or linear indication is found. In July 2012, owners of refuse front loader vehicles identified during inspection were notified that the front axle beam on their vehicle required replacement and they were instructed to make an appointment at a Mack Parts and Service Center to have the axle beam replaced.

Reimbursement for cost incurred by the owner for “prenotification remedies” is being addressed on a case-by-case basis according to the “General Plan for Reimbursement of Pre-notification Remedies” which was published October 3, 2011.

An advance copy of the owner’s letter was **submitted** to NHTSA for review and **approved** prior to release to the owners.

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

Sincerely,

Tim L. LaFon
Director, Regulatory Affairs
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