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(3 Pages)

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

March 30, 2012

Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report FL-624, National Seat Cold Weld

Ms. Lewis,

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 8747 Freightliner Cascadia and Western Star 4900 vehicles manufactured December 22, 2011 through January 23, 2012, and equipped with certain National Seat seats with a potential defective weld in the seat base.

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Amy Martin, Chief Counsel, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail# 7003 2260 0001 3404 2303

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland OR 97217-7699
503-745-6910 Phone
503-745-5544 Fax
Nasser.Zamani@Daimler.com

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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

Date: 3/30/12

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219

Brands: Freightliner, Western Star

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: Freightliner - Cascadia, Western Star - 4900

Model Years affected: 2012

Manufacture Dates: Approximately December 22, 2011 through February 23, 2012

Basis for determining population: Specific seat models manufactured December 12, 2011 through January 23, 2012. Truck manufacture dates calculated based on supplier delivery and seat sequencing data to assembly plants.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Bruce Walker
Commercial Vehicle Group, Inc.
National Seating
200 National Drive
Vonore TN, 37885

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 8,747

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: 1% of vehicles with identified seat specification

(c)(5) Description of the defect: On a certain family of seats the seat base may have out of specification welds. In the worse case, weld separation may occur which may allow the seat to descend unexpectedly. Out of specification welds were attributed to the introduction of robotic welding into the manufacturing process. Approximately 50% of seat bases in the affected date range were robotic welded, the remaining 50% were manually welded and did not contain out of specification welds.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: An unexpected downward movement of the seat could affect vehicle control and visibility.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: Nov. 2011 A sub-supplier of seat bases introduced robotic welding into the manufacturing process to compliment manual welding. Dec. 2011 Initial receipt of suspect assembled seats received at DTNA. Jan.2012 Initial seat base failure occurred at DTNA manufacturing plant. Jan. 2012 Supplier and DTNA opened investigation to determine cause of seat failure. Feb.2012 Supplier ceased use of suspect bases. Mar. 2012 DTNA voluntary decided to conduct a safety campaign to recall potentially affected seats.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: Not applicable

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: Potentially affected vehicles will be repaired with replacement components. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities.

Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(ii) Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date: Customer notification will be by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. This will

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be completed prior to May 25, 2012

Dealer and distributor notification will be completed prior to May 25, 2012

(c)(9) Information for tire recalls: Not Applicable

(c)(10) Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number: FL-624