

DAIMLER

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

January 9, 2013

Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215, Rm. W45-206)
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

**Re: Defect Information Report – Supplemental Report No. 4
12V-405, FL-631, Perpendicular Aluminum Air Tank Mounting Brackets
Representative Owner Notice**

Ms. Lewis,

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 a representative copy of the document distributed to owners.

(c)(8)(ii) Owners of 1,669, vehicles were notified on December 24, 2012.

(c)(10) A copy of communications sent to owners is attached.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Amy Martin, CAL-OSHA
Attachment

A Daimler Company

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Daimler Trucks North America LLC

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800.547.0712 Phone
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December 2012
FL631AB
NHTSA #12V-405

Subject: Perpendicular Aluminum Air Tank Mounting Brackets

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, on behalf of Freightliner Trucks Division and wholly owned subsidiaries, Sterling Truck Corporation and Western Star Trucks Sales, Inc., has decided that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Freightliner 114SD, Business Class M2, Cascadia, and Coronado vehicles; Sterling 9500 vehicles; and Western Star 4700 vehicles manufactured July 29, 2008, through December 15, 2011.

Certain perpendicular air tank mounting brackets may develop cracks under some conditions. Increasing size of the cracks may lead to air tank brackets separating from the frame rails which may lead to a loss of air in the air brake system, possibly leading to increased stopping distances. Air tanks that become separated from a moving vehicle may create a road debris hazard, increasing the risk of a crash.

The final remedy is to replace the original aluminum mounting bracket (or steel bracket if interim repair was performed) with a more robust steel bracket. **(Vehicles that had the interim repair performed also require the final remedy.)**

Please contact an authorized Daimler Trucks North America dealer to arrange to have the recall performed and to ensure that parts are available at the dealership. To locate an authorized dealer, search online at www.Daimler-TrucksNorthAmerica.com. The Recall will take approximately one to two hours depending on the repair and will be performed at no charge to you.

You may be liable for any progressive damage that results from your failure to complete the Recall within a reasonable time after receiving notification.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s) which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner. If you have leased this vehicle, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to the lessee within 10 days. If you are a subsequent stage manufacturer, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to your distributors and retail outlets within five working days. If you have paid to have this recall condition corrected prior to this notice, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement. Please see the reverse side of this notice for details.

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, 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

Reimbursement to Customers for Repairs Performed Prior to Recall

If you have already **paid** to have this recall condition corrected you may be eligible to receive reimbursement.

Requests for reimbursement may include parts and labor. Reimbursement may be limited to the amount the repair would have cost if completed by an authorized Daimler Trucks North America LLC dealer. The following documentation must be presented to your dealer for consideration for reimbursement.

Please provide original or clear copies of all receipts, invoices, and repair orders that show:

- The name and address of the person who paid for the repair.
- The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of the vehicle that was repaired.
- What problem occurred, what repair was done, when the repair was done.
- Who repaired the vehicle.
- The total cost of the repair expense that is being claimed.
- Proof of payment for the repair (such as the front and back of a cancelled check or a credit card receipt).

Reimbursement will be made by check from your Daimler Trucks North America LLC dealer.

Please speak with your Daimler Trucks North America LLC authorized dealer concerning this matter.