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

September 4, 2013

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-645, Western Star Seatbelt Anchor

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 650 Western Star 4900 vehicles manufactured May 27, 2008 through March 22, 2013, and equipped with a Stratosphere sleeper cab and a sheet metal misalignment in the b-pillar.

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# 7006 3450 0003 7727 0223

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
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Portland OR 97217-7699
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Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

September 4, 2013

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

Brands: Western Star

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: 4900

Model Years affected: 2009 through 2014

Manufacture Dates: May 27, 2008 through March 22, 2013

Basis for determining population: Western Star 4900 vehicles with a Stratosphere sleeper cab and a certain seatbelt anchor plate.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: N/A

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: estimated at 650

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: Unknown

(c)(5) Description of the defect: A potential misalignment of a clearance hole in a b-pillar reinforcement may affect the performance of the D-ring seatbelt anchorage point.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: In the event of a crash the seatbelt may not perform as expected thereby increasing the risk of injury.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: In mid February of 2013 began testing of a newly designed seat. During the testing a misalignment between the b-pillar sheet metal, b-pillar reinforcement, and the seatbelt D-ring anchor point was noted. DTNA Engineering and Product Validation began an investigation to determine the extent of the misalignment and the potential consequences. In March 2013, out of an abundance of caution, DTNA made a production change to the D-ring anchor point. At the conclusion of the investigation DTNA determined that the D-ring anchor point may not meet the DTNA standard when the misalignment is present in the b-pillar. On September 4, 2013 DTNA decided to conduct a voluntary safety campaign to recall affected vehicles.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: N/A

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: The D-ring anchor points will be reinforced on affected vehicles. 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 be completed no later than November 3, 2013.

Dealer and distributor notification will be completed no later than November 3, 2013.

(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-645