



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

September 15, 2015

Mr. Tim Lafon  
Vice President Regulatory Affairs  
Volvo Trucks North America  
7900 National Service Rd  
Greensboro, NC 27357

NVS-215KS  
15V-523

**Subject:** Draglink Ball Socket Boot Damage

Dear Mr. Lafon:

This letter serves to acknowledge Volvo 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:**

VOLVO/VAH/2012-2016

**Mfr's Report Date:** August 13, 2015

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 15V-523

**Components:**

STEERING:LINKAGES:LINK:DRAG:CONNECTION

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 844

**Problem Description:**

Volvo Trucks North America (Volvo) is recalling certain model year 2012-2016 VAH trucks manufactured July 11, 2011, to June 25, 2015 and equipped with a sealed drag link. In the affected trucks, the draglink ball socket boot may be damaged due to the angle of the ball stud. A damaged boot may allow contaminants to enter and corrode the ball socket.

**Consequence:**

Corrosion will accelerate wear of the ball, possibly resulting in the ball joint separating from the socket, causing loss of steering and an increased risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Volvo will notify owners, and dealers will replace the drag link with one that has an improved geometry, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin by October 13, 2015. Owners may contact Volvo customer service at 1-800-528-6586. Volvo's number for this recall is RVXX1503.

**Notes:**

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](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received Volvo's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Volvo's proposed owner notification letter identifies a different model year range and product date range from the Defect Information report. Please clarify which is the correct set of information.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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 Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at [kelly.schuler@dot.gov](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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