



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

**1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590**

October 16, 2015

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

NVS-215KS  
15V-651

**Subject:** Ball Joints may Fail due to Corrosion

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/VN/2009-2015

**Mfr's Report Date:** October 12, 2015

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 15V-651

**Components:**

SUSPENSION:FRONT:CONTROL ARM:LOWER BALL JOINT  
SUSPENSION:FRONT:CONTROL ARM:UPPER BALL JOINT

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 8,103

**Problem Description:**

Volvo Trucks North America (Volvo) is recalling certain model year 2009-2015 Volvo VN trucks manufactured April 14, 2008, to December 23, 2014. The affected vehicles may experience corrosion of the ball joints due to the seals being compromised, possibly resulting in accelerated wear and failure of the ball joint.

**Consequence:**

Failure of the ball joint may cause separation of the socket and a complete loss of steering, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Volvo will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and replace the drag links, free of charge. Parts are not currently available. Owners will be mailed an interim notification on, or before, November 2, 2015, and will be sent a second notification when the remedy parts are available. Owners may contact Volvo customer service at 1-800-528-6586. Volvo's number for the vehicle inspection is RVXX1508. Volvo's number for the replacement of drag links is RVXX1509.

**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.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian".

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