

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****15V-651**

**Manufacturer Name :** Volvo Trucks North America  
**Submission Date :** OCT 12,2015  
**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-651  
**Manufacturer Recall No. :** RVXX1508/ RVXX1509

**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Volvo Trucks North America  
 Address : 7900 National Service Road  
 Greensboro NC 27409  
 Company phone : 800 528 6586

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 8,103  
 Estimated percentage with defect : 0

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2009-2015 Volvo VN

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Certain 2009-2015 VN model vehicles manufactured from April 14, 2008 through December 23, 2014 with a USK sealed drag link.

The selection of vehicle was based on build date and drag link part number.

Production Dates : APR 14, 2008 - DEC 23, 2014

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

Not sequential VINs

**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The ball joint seal may be compromised, which can allow water and other contaminants to enter the ball joint. If water and contaminants enter the ball joint, corrosion can occur and lead to accelerated wear, which over time can result in failure of the ball joint.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If this is left untreated, the ball can separate from the socket and result in complete loss of steering which may result in a vehicle crash.

Description of the Cause : The root cause has not been identified

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Looseness in ball joint will be felt when examination using industry standard inspection criteria

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : USK Intemacional S.A. deC.V.

Address : Av. Huehuetoca S/N

San Mateo Ixtacalco FOREIGN STATES 54713

Country : Mexico

**Chronology :**

4/30/15 Volvo's service department receives customer report of drag link separation on truck manufactured in 2013. Incident reported to Regulatory Affairs department

5/5/15 Volvo provides inspection procedure and instructs owner to inspect their trucks and to place trucks out of service that are found with looseness in the ball joint

5/18/15 Volvo inspects parts removed as a result of the inspection. Some parts found with looseness in the ball joint that would require replacement according to standard out-of-service criteria

7/28/15 Volvo's service department receives report of accident alleging loss of steering and reports to Volvo Regulatory Affairs

8/12/15 Volvo provides inspection procedure and instructs owner to inspect their trucks and to place trucks out of service that are found with looseness in the ball joint

9/4/15 Volvo meets with owner to examine truck involved in accident

10/5/15 Volvo determines that a safety-related defect exists

10/12/15 Volvo informs NHTSA that a voluntary safety recall will be conducted to address the trucks

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : An interim owner letter will be released on or before November 2, 2015 to provide inspection procedures that can be used until parts become available to replace the drag links. Once parts are available, the recall repairs will be released in stages and according to the build date, with priority given to the trucks that have been in service the longest

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Volvo's standard drag link will be used as a replacement

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Volvo standard drag link has been in production since 2008, with no reported issues. The optional drag link, in question, is still used in limited quantities in production. New vehicles are not at risk as the circumstances involved to degrade the ball joint takes time, estimated at greater

than 2 years, to result in a potential separation

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Volvo will initiate a voluntary owner notification, and recall the affected trucks. The initial release will be to inform the owner and provide inspection instructions and provisions. The number used for this will be RVXX1508. The intent of this action is to address any trucks where there is an imminent risk. The second step will be to replace the drag links with Volvo's standard drag link. The number, which has been assigned to this recall by Volvo, is RVXX1509.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 16, 2015 - OCT 16, 2015

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 02, 2015 - NOV 02, 2015

\* NR - Not Reported