

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

16V-706

Manufacturer Name : Fontaine Modification

Submission Date : SEP 30, 2016

NHTSA Recall No. : 16V-706

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Fontaine Modification

Address : 9827 Mt. Holly Road

Charlotte NC 28214

Company phone : 704-409-1614

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 70

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Alterer Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2013-2017 Peterbilt PB220/KW370

Descriptive Information : Descriptive Information: With an abundance of caution, Fontaine Modification Company is reporting a possible Safety Defect resulting from a supplier provided component part affecting 2013 to 2017 Peterbilt and Kenworth vehicles converted to Dual Steering by Fontaine Modification Company. A Master VIN list has been established and will be maintained by Fontaine Modification Company. Notification will be sent to the end users and/or owners of all affected vehicles.

Production Dates : SEP 30, 2013 - AUG 22, 2016

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The steering shaft on the right hand side may fail due to an improper press fit performed by a supplier to Fontaine Modification Company. As part of the dual steer conversion, the right hand OEM steering shaft is shortened. Final validation torque testing (225 ft/lbs) may not have been performed on all shafts modified by Fontaine Modification Company's supplier.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the press fit is not adequate, then the shaft could slip causing loss of steering control.

Description of the Cause : Possible lack of final torque test validation by Fontaine Modification Company's supplier.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Steering wheel may be able to be turned partially before steering control is felt.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : J & L Machine & Fabrication
Address : 121 Shannon Bradley Road
Gastonia NORTH CAROLINA 28052
Country : United States

Chronology :

*August 22, 2016, Technicians at Fontaine Modification Company's facility in Garland, TX reported that three (3) trucks just completed had slipping steering shafts during initial test drive. Trucks were quarantined and shafts were removed and sent to corporate office in Charlotte, NC for evaluation.

* August 26, 2016, Suspect shafts were evaluated. It was determined that the bore was over sized by the supplier prior to press fitting the inner sleeve. Supplier evaluation revealed that a new operator had machined and pressed the last twelve shafts improperly. All twelve (12) suspect shafts were quarantined.

* September 1, 2016 through 23, 2016 Although no field issues have been reported, Fontaine Modification Company performed a torque test validation on 6 trucks in the field and found no defects. With an abundance of caution, Fontaine Modification Company has decided to perform a safety recall and replace all shafts in the 70 affected trucks.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : A kit containing a replacement verified steering shaft will be supplied by Fontaine Modification Company. Fontaine Modification Company will also conduct field replacements of the shafts.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : On August 25, 2016 new shafts that were machined and tested to spec were installed on trucks going forward.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer notification is planned to begin during the week of October 24, 2016

Customer notification is planned to occur during the week of September 26, 2016

Customer notification will be made by first class mail using Fontaine Modification Company records to determine the customers affected.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 24, 2016 - NOV 23, 2016

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 24, 2016 - NOV 23, 2016

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name :

Address :

Country :

Company Phone :

* NR - Not Reported