



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

May 24, 2017

Mr. Andy Jones  
Daimler Trucks North America LLC  
4747 N. Channel Ave.  
Portland, OR 97217

NEF-150KS  
17V-315

**Subject:** Tandem Axle Output Shaft may Fracture

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Trucks North America LLC'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:**

FREIGHTLINER/CASCADIA/2017  
WESTERN STAR/5700/2017

**Mfr's Report Date:** May 11, 2017

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 17V-315

**Components:**

POWER TRAIN:AXLE ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 698

**Problem Description:**

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA) is recalling certain 2017 Freightliner Cascadia and Western Star 5700 trucks built with NFD tandem rear axles. During the hardening process, the axle assembly output shaft may have been made brittle, possibly resulting in the output shaft fracturing while the vehicle is in use.

**Consequence:**

If output shaft fractures while descending a grade, the compression braking will be ineffective. Additionally, large debris may land in the road. Both scenarios increase the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

DTNA will notify the owners, and Detroit Axle dealers will replace the output shaft, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin on July 9, 2017. Owners may contact DTNA customer service at 1-800-547-0712. DTNA's number for this recall is FL-738.

**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 DTNA'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:

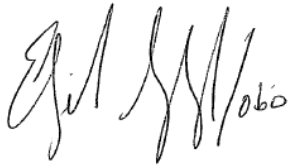
Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please inform us, to the best of your knowledge, whether these NFD tandem axles are sold exclusively for use within the Freightliner and Western Star products listed in this report, or if they may have been used by other vehicle manufacturers.

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" followed by a date "1/10/10".

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