Chronology

The chronology of events

February to April, 2018

In February, 2018, Hino received a Hino Technical Report ("TR") from a dealer in the Canadian market reporting that the vehicle pulls to the left side when braking on a very wet road. Then, by the end of April, 2018, Hino received three TRs of similar failures from dealers in the US market. In addition, Hino created one internal TR with respect to this issue.

May, 2018 to January, 2019

In response to the above-mentioned TRs, Hino started investigating the cause. Based on the information that the issue occurred only on very wet roads and the brake shoe in the front right side drum contained more water than the left side, it was assumed that there was a difference in the amount of water splashing the right and left drum. Further, the cause was unknown. However, this issue only occurred on specific NJ8J vehicles with 19.5-inch wheels (Low Profile vehicle), and this vehicle's brake assembly was not equipped with dust shields. Because the other models are equipped with dust shields and there has been no information reporting such occurrences of the issue, it was decided to implement preventive measures by equipping the production vehicles with dust shields as an improvement against water infiltration. Upon further investigation, when comparing with other companies' vehicles not equipped with the dust shields, it was determined that while the front fender shape of the vehicles of the other companies was symmetrical, the front fender shape of the Hino vehicles was asymmetrical on the right and left. It was assumed that the different fender shape on the right and left caused the amount of water splashed into the drum to be different on the right and left sides. Based on those assumptions, Hino examined improvements to result in the same amount of water splash in the drums on both the right and the left sides. But it was difficult to make improvements by changing the shape of the fender or any similar change. From the test results conducted in parallel, it was also confirmed that equipping each brake drum with a dust shield, as an additional preventive measure, was an effective way to prevent water from splashing inside the brake drums.

January 11, 2019

Based on the above mentioned investigation results, Hino decided to implement a voluntary safety recall campaign. As of January 10, 2019, Hino is not aware of any accident which has occurred as a result of this issue. However, out of an abundance of caution, Hino has determined to conduct a voluntary safety recall.