

## Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

**FL-807**

Date of Submission: *February, 12, 2019*

Manufacturer: Daimler Trucks North America LLC  
P.O. BOX 3849  
Portland, Oregon 97208

Type of Report: ☒ Safety Defect ☐ Non-Compliance

### Vehicle Information

Model Yr. Start: 2013 Model Yr. End: 2016

Make: *Freightliner*

Model: *Cascadia*

Production Dates: Begin: *4/30/2012*

End: *5/26/2015*

**Descriptive Information:** *Certain vehicles equipped with Hendrickson 5" drop axles and stamp spiders produced within the above referenced dates.*

**Number potentially involved:** 111 **Estimated percentage of involve with defect:** *Unknown%*

### Defect / Noncompliance Description

**For this Defect/Noncompliance:**

**Describe the defect or noncompliance:**

*In certain circumstances, high brake vibrations may occur due to a specific combination of Hendrickson 5" drop axles, brake linings and stamped spiders. Under certain circumstances, these vibrations may lead to a reduced fatigue life and early separation of the tie-rod.*

**If a noncompliance, provide the applicable FMVSS:**

*N/A*

☐ Check if this recall only affects products in certain geographic regions.

**Describe the safety risk:**

*Separation of the tie-rod may lead to a disconnect between the front wheels of the vehicle and reduce the ability to steer the vehicle, which could increase the risk of a crash.*

**If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component.**

*N/A*

## Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

**Provide the chronology of events leading up to the defect decision or test data for the noncompliance decision:**

*April 2015, DTNA received a field report of a tie rod failure. Investigation revealed no other warranty failures and the issue was limited to a single customer with Hendrickson 5" drop axle configuration.*

*March 2018, DTNA received a field report of a tie-rod failure from an additional customer with the same 5 inch drop axle configuration. At this time, DTNA was investigating unrelated tie rod failures that led to the voluntary DTNA recall FL-782 and found in that investigation that transient braking chatter could cause resonant vibration in the tie-rod. July 2018, DTNA decided to initiate the voluntary recall FL-782 for certain vehicles equipped with a specific combination of a certain front axle, brake lining and stamped spiders. August 2018, DTNA received a field report from a third customer with the same 5 inch drop axle configuration. September 2018 to January 2019, with a better understanding of the failure modes understood as a result of the FL-782 recall, DTNA reinvestigated the 5" drop axle tie rod issues. Working with the axle supplier, DTNA was able to identify that the excessive vibration causing tie rod fatigue could occur due to a 5 inch drop front axle, stamped spiders and certain brake linings. February 2019, with an abundance of caution, DTNA decided to initiate a voluntary recall.*

## Identify the Remedy

**Describe the defect/noncompliance remedy program, including the manufacture's plan for reimbursement.**

*Stamped brake spiders and the tie-rod will be replaced. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities. Copies of the reimbursement plan will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.*

## Identify the Recall Schedule

**Describe the recall schedule for notifications:**

*Customer notification will be made by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected.*

**Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date:** 4/12/2019

**Planned Dealer Notification End Date:** 4/12/2019

**Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:** 4/12/2019

**Planned Owner Notification End Date:** 4/12/2019

**Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable):** FL-807

**DTNA Representative;**



Andy Jones  
Manager  
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs