

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-861

Date of Submission: September 1, 2020

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: 2018 **Model Yr. End:** 2019

Make: Freightliner Custom Chassis

Model: XCL chassis

Model Yr. Start: 2018 **Model Yr. End:** 2021

Make: Freightliner Custom Chassis

Model: XCM chassis

Model Yr. Start: 2017 **Model Yr. End:** 2021

Make: Freightliner Custom Chassis

Model: XCR chassis

Model Yr. Start: 2018 **Model Yr. End:** 2021

Make: Freightliner Custom Chassis

Model: XCS chassis

Model Yr. Start: 2018 **Model Yr. End:** 2021

Make: Freightliner Custom Chassis

Model: MC chassis

Production Dates: **Begin:** 02/20/2017 **End:** 08/26/2020

Type: Recreation Chassis

Descriptive Information:

Certain motorhome chassis equipped with a valve stem extension and stabilizer configured with a specific tire valve stem and wheel combination.

Number potentially involved: 10,359 **Estimated percentage of involve with defect:** 4%

Defect / Noncompliance Description**For this Defect/Noncompliance:****Describe the defect or noncompliance:**

On affected chassis, the tire valve stem extension for the inner wheel may contact the outer wheel rim opening and become damaged. Extensive damage to the valve stem extension may result in a loss of tire pressure of the inner wheel.

If a noncompliance, provide the applicable FMVSS:

NA

Describe the safety risk:

Motorhome vehicle drivers may not be required to hold a commercial driver's license and daily pre-trip inspections may not be required which would enable early detection of the issue. The potentially affected chassis population may not be equipped with a factory tire pressure monitoring system and visual inspection of the inner tire on a single drive axle motor home is difficult due to the close proximity of the motorhome body. Due to the high failure rate and reduced detectability a loss of air pressure in the inner tire on a vehicle with a single drive axle may result in an overloaded outer tire. While DTNA has not received any reports of an incident related to this defect, extended driving with an overloaded tire may increase the risk of a crash.

Identify any warning which can precede or occur:

Operators may identify an audible rattling noise from the stem extension rubbing against the wheel opening while driving. Visual inspection during inspection or during maintenance may reveal stabilizer is dislocated, damage to the stem extension, or the rim, and low tire pressure of the inner tire.

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

Involved Components

Wheel/rim outer ACC40620 in combination with inner ACC50487 or ACC51487,
Extension stabilizer 13-10232-000,
Stem extension 13-10026-000,
Valve stem 13-10303-000

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

January of 2020, NHTSA notified DTNA of an owner questionnaire that may be related to FL-764. Also in January 2020 DTNA opened an investigation to review the report, additional warranty claims, and reevaluate the scope of FL-764. February to June 2020 DTNA held on-going monthly reviews sharing finding details with NHTSA ODI regarding warranty claims, VOQ's, and returned part analysis. July 2020 DTNA further expanded the warranty analysis to include multiple configurations and a larger vehicle population for DTNA internal review. August 2020, during DTNA's continuing efforts to analyze data it was determined that the complaints were isolated to configuration involving a certain valve stem when configured with certain outer and inner wheels. On-going investigation continues to determine the root cause(s) of failure for this configuration. In August 2020 DTNA, in an abundance of caution due to the expected high failure rate of 4%, decided to initiate a voluntary recall to campaign certain motorhome chassis equipped with a valve stem extension and stabilizer configured with a specific tire valve stem and wheel combinations.

Identify the Remedy

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

Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities. Details of the reimbursement plan will be included in the owner's notification letter.

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: 10/30/2020

Planned Dealer Notification End Date: 10/30/2020

Planned Owner Notification Begin Date: 10/30/2020

Planned Owner Notification End Date: 10/30/2020

Manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-861

DTNA Representative;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Stoffels'.

Larissa Stoffels

Executive Manager, Vehicle Safety
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs