

Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

FL-905

Date of Submission: *November 5, 2021 (amended on November 17, 2021)*

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: *2021* **Model Yr. End:** *2022*

Make: Western Star

Model: 49X

Production Dates: **Begin:** *06/17/2020* **End:** *10/07/2021*

Descriptive Information: 49X vehicles built with an inboard steering gear

Number potentially involved: *479* **Estimated percentage of involve with defect:** *1%*

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance: On certain vehicles, the steering shaft may not have been properly installed on the steering gear. If the steering shaft has not been properly installed, it may separate from the steering gear resulting in a loss of steering control.

Describe the safety risk: A loss of steering control may lead to a vehicle crash.

Identify any warning which can precede or occur: N/A

If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component. : N/A

Involved Components

Component Name: Pinch Bolt

Component Description: Steering Pinch Bolt

Component Part Number: 14-18771-000

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

11/2/2021 DTNA received a report of a vehicle where the steering shaft became disconnected at the steering gear in a vehicle being parked, resulting in neither an accident nor an injury. Upon inspection, it was found that the steering shaft was not fully slid onto the splines of the steering gear. 11/3/2021 Plant inspections found 3 vehicles where the steering shaft was not properly installed. The investigation isolated the issue to the steering system on the 49X vehicles. Out of an abundance of caution, DTNA promptly released a recall.

Identify the Remedy

Describe the defect/noncompliance remedy program, including the manufacture's plan for reimbursement. *Vehicles will be inspected to ensure that the steering shaft is properly installed and repaired as necessary. 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. However, acting under an abundance of caution, we ask you to make immediate arrangements with your facing dealer to have your vehicle inspected to ensure the vehicle is safe for operation as the vehicle should not be driven until that inspection is complete.*

Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date: 01/03/2022

Planned Dealer Notification End Date: 01/03/2022

Planned Owner Notification Begin Date: 01/03/2022

Planned Owner Notification End Date: 01/03/2022

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-905

DTNA Representative;



Tiffani Torgeson

Manager

Compliance and Regulatory Affairs