Part 573 Safety Recall Report 23V-105

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC
Submission Date : FEB 20, 2023
NHTSA Recall No. : 23V-105
Manufacturer Recall No. : FL967

NHTSA
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC
Address : 4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland OR 97217-3849
Company phone : 800-745-8000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 60,604
Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2021 Freightliner 108SD
Vehicle Type :
Body Style :
Power Train : NR
Descriptive Information : All trucks built in the Santiago Manufacturing Plant within the affected production date range. 947 108SD
Production Dates : APR 02, 2018 - JUN 25, 2020
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2019-2021 Freightliner 114SD
Vehicle Type :
Body Style :
Power Train : NR
Descriptive Information : All trucks built in the Santiago Manufacturing Plant within the affected production date range. 3,364 114SD
Production Dates : APR 02, 2018 - JUN 25, 2020
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2019-2021 Freightliner 122SD
Vehicle Type :
Body Style :
Power Train : NR
Descriptive Information : All trucks built in the Santiago Manufacturing Plant within the affected production date range.4,262 122SD
Production Dates : APR 02, 2018 - JUN 25, 2020
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 4 :	2019-2021 Freightliner Columbia
Vehicle Type :	
Body Style :	
Power Train :	NR
Descriptive Information :	All trucks built in the Santiago Manufacturing Plant within the affected production date range. 1,058 Columbia
Production Dates :	APR 02, 2018 - JUN 25, 2020
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 5 :	2019-2021 Freightliner Coronado
Vehicle Type :	
Body Style :	
Power Train :	NR
Descriptive Information :	All trucks built in the Santiago Manufacturing Plant within the affected production date range. 2,104 Coronado
Production Dates :	APR 02, 2018 - JUN 25, 2020
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 6 :	2019-2021 Freightliner Business Class M2
Vehicle Type :	
Body Style :	
Power Train :	NR
Descriptive Information :	All trucks built in the Santiago Manufacturing Plant within the affected production date range. 48,274 Business Class M2
Production Dates :	APR 02, 2018 - JUN 25, 2020
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 7 :	2019-2021 Freightliner Cascadia
Vehicle Type :	
Body Style :	
Power Train :	NR
Descriptive Information :	All trucks built in the Santiago Manufacturing Plant within the affected production date range. 595 Cascadia
Production Dates :	APR 02, 2018 - JUN 25, 2020
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect :	On certain vehicles built on certain dates at Daimler; Santiago Manufacturing facility, the drag link taper joint at the steering arm may not have been tightened sufficiently and may come loose.

FMVSS 1 :	NR
FMVSS 2 :	NR
Description of the Safety Risk :	A gradual loosening of this joint could lead to a loss of steering control, which increases the risk of a crash.
Description of the Cause :	NR
Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :	A loose joint may be detected by pre-trip inspections, loose steering, wandering, noises or vibration.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 :	Drag Link Taper Joint
Component Description :	Linkage point where the drag link attaches to the steering arm of the front axle
Component Part Number :	14-17273-000, 14-17288-000, 14-17289-000, 14-17290-000, 14-17291-000, 14-17293-000, 14-17294-000, 14

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name :	NR
Address :	NR
	NR
Country :	NR

Chronology :

In or about September 2021, DTNA initiated an investigation on a specific population of vehicles that ultimately had 11 separations of drag link joints. This led to DTNA issuing recall (21V-689) in order to remedy certain populations of vehicles subject to possible steering link separations. In tandem, DTNA actively screened and investigated this second population that did not experience separations and was different from the first population based on the manufacturing location of these vehicles.
Starting in or about February 2022, DTNA and NHTSA had multiple discussions regarding both of these populations within SEL and specific off ramp meetings. In December 2022 DTNA, while in communication with NHTSA, DTNA determined the second population out of an abundance of caution, be fixed via a Service Campaign. This, in good faith and with reasonable engineering judgement was for a perceived quality issue as there were no separations and no injuries or deaths. The Service Campaign, SF660A was initiated for the population of vehicles manufactured at a specific plant within a specific date range separate from recall 21V-689.
In SF660A Service Campaign materials, due to some clerical oversight, DTNA unartfully worded the

circumstances as to draglink symptom characteristics for this population of vehicles. In January and February 2023 discussions with NHTSA regarding SF660A continued, and understandably there were mutual concerns despite improbable risk regarding the language of the field action being performed as a Service Campaign. As such DTNA agreed with NHTSA that regardless of the lack of known separations in the field or awareness of any injuries or deaths that may be related to such conditions, the potential risk of this situation leading to a steering separation cannot be ruled out and thus may rise to the level of an unreasonable risk to safety. Out of an abundance of caution, DTNA has made the determination to issue a safety recall to remedy the potential risk.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program :	The taper joint will be inspected, tested for accurate torque and repaired as necessary. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Truck North America authorized service facilities. Details of the reimbursement plan will be included in the owner's notification letter.
How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :	NR
Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :	NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule :	Customer notification will be made by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected.
Planned Dealer Notification Date :	APR 21, 2023 - APR 21, 2023
Planned Owner Notification Date :	APR 21, 2023 - APR 21, 2023

* NR - Not Reported