



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V504

Manufacturer Name: FONTAINE MODIFICATION CO.

Submission Date: Aug 26, 2025

NHTSA Recall No.: 25V504

Manufacturer Recall No.:

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: FONTAINE MODIFICATION CO.

Address: 9827 Mt Holly Road
Charlotte NC, 28214

Total number of potentially involved: 176

Estimated percentage with defect: 100%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2022-2024 FREIGHTLINER BUSINESS CLASS M2

Product Category: Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles

Product Type:

Fuel / Propulsion: Compression Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Nov 01, 2023 - Oct 29, 2024

Number of potentially involved: 176

Descriptive Information:

Fontaine Dual Steer Low Cabs.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Fontaine Modification Company has determined that a Safety Defect exists in certain 2022-to-2024-year model M2 106 and M2 106 plus low cab Freightliner chassis with Premium Sit-Down Dual Drive conversions performed by Fontaine Modification Company. This defect results from dot/Tack welds of vendor supplied Intermediate Steering Shaft that were not up to Fontaine's specifications. A Master VIN list has been established and will be maintained by Fontaine Modification Company. Notifications will be sent out to end users and/or owners of all affected vehicles.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

Due to the potential defects in the intermediate steering shaft the welds could break while operating the

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vehicle and causing loss of the ability to steer, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the cause:

Possible defects within the weld on the intermediate steering shaft could cause the shaft to be fully separated.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

No warning can occur.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier: Tier 1

Supplier Type: Distributor

Name: Prop Shaft Supply

Address: 969 Koopman Lane
Elkhorn WI, 53121

Country: United States

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Intermediate Steering Shaft

Component Description: SHAFT-STEERING,TEL,M2+,PDD,LC

Component Part Number: FNT-153294051

Chronology

On October 29, 2024, a Fontaine Modification employee was backing a vehicle out of a Fontaine Modification facility to perform a test drive prior to releasing the vehicle. They then noticed that they had no control over the steering of the vehicle. Upon further inspection they found that the intermediate shaft welds were cracked and fully separated.

On October 29, 2024, we immediately stopped shipping all M2 Plus Dual Drives that received this part number FNT-15294051. We began working with the vendor for inventory validation and found zero additional failed parts.

In the beginning of November our engineers started to design an upgraded intermediate shaft.

Once the new shaft was designed around the middle of November, Fontaine shipped the old intermediate shafts back to the vendor for them to rework and add the new design to all intermediate shafts.

After a root cause analysis was completed, Fontaine decided to start the process of submitting a recall claim on 12/17/2024. From December through middle of January we sent technicians out to body

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builders and transporters to check and inspect the intermediate shafts.

In the middle of January to February we started to collect the Vin data of all the potentially affected units.

In March through end of July we had reached out to a third party for support to get the end user information to send out the recall letters.

At the end of July, we received the information back from the third party and there were still some addresses missing, we sent out emails to the dealerships that we sold the units to asking for the end user information.

In the beginning of August, we received almost all of the end users' addresses and submitted the recall on August 6, 2025.

There have been no claims, injuries, or deaths associated with the intermediate shaft. This was an isolated in house incident.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Replace

Consumer Advisories: ☐ Do Not Drive ☐ Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

Replace the intermediate shaft.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

Redesigned and added a new part number to include a roll pin in addition to weld to prevent separation.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

When the unit had the welds break on the intermediate shaft on 10/29/2024 a stop ship was issued for all units using this part number until the intermediate shaft was redesigned to add roll pin in addition to the weld.

Reimbursement Plan

Description of reimbursement program:

Create work instructions to remove and replace steering stub shaft with Fontaine supplied stub shaft. Fontaine will cover up to one hour to remove and replace stub shaft.

Period of reimbursement:

Costs to be reimbursed:

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One hour of labor to remove and replace stub shaft.

Address for reimbursement claims:

8810 Old Dowd Rd
Charlotte NC, 28214

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:**Planned Dealer Notification Date:**☒ No Dealers**Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:** Aug 11, 2025 - Sep 01, 2025☐ No Owners**Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:** Aug 11, 2025 - Sep 01, 2025☐ Phased Recall**Date when VIN will be searchable:**