



U.S. Department of Transportation

**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 11, 2026

26V066

Tim Wheeler
FONTAINE MODIFICATION CO.
8810 Old Dowd Rd
Charlotte, NC 28214

Subject: Insufficient Oil in Steering Gear Box May Cause Gears to Bind

Dear Tim Wheeler:

This letter serves to acknowledge FONTAINE MODIFICATION CO.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

FREIGHTLINER/BUSINESS CLASS M2/2024-2025

Mfr's Report Date: February 04, 2026

NHTSA Campaign Number: 26V066

Components:

STEERING:GEAR BOX (OTHER THAN RACK AND PINION)

Potential Number of Units Affected: 280

Problem Description:

Fontaine Modification Company (Fontaine Modification) is recalling certain 2024-2025 Freightliner Business Class M2 vehicles. The steering gearbox assembly may have been assembled with insufficient oil.

Consequence:

A lack of lubrication may cause binding gears and difficulty steering, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Fontaine Modification will inspect and replace the steering gearbox as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed March 2, 2026. Owners may contact Fontaine Modification customer service at 1-800-366-8246.



Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-888-275-9171), or go to www.nhtsa.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 573.7, submission of the first of eight consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

FONTAINE MODIFICATION CO.'s contact for this recall will be Hensly Guerra who may be reached by email at hensly.guerra1@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement