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November, 2013

SUBJECT: Kenworth and Peterbilt Vehicle Configuration Allows the Engine to Start in Range (Forward or Reverse)

MODELS AFFECTED: 2000 Series Product Family Transmissions

VOCATIONS AFFECTED: Kenworth Models: K270 and K370 manufactured before 11/7/2012. Peterbilt Models: 210 and 220 manufactured before 11/6/2012.

Description of Complaint:

U.S. and Canadian regulations stipulate that an engine starter must be inoperative when the transmission shift position is in a forward or reverse drive position. The purpose of this requirement is to prevent unintended vehicle propulsion, or truck "rollaway". The Kenworth and Peterbilt vehicles identified above rely on an alternate means of preventing unintended vehicle propulsion and, accordingly, do not comply with the standard as drafted. The trucks in the affected population are designed so that the engine will start with the gear selector in any position. However, the transmission will remain in neutral until the service brake is applied and the transmission is shifted from neutral into a gear.

Corrective Action:

To remedy the noncompliance, customers who own the affected vehicles may have their vehicles retrofitted with a neutral start harness that will prevent the engine from starting unless the transmission selector is in the neutral position. Customers with affected vehicles may contact their Kenworth or Peterbilt dealer to schedule an appointment for this retrofit.

OEM Service Channel Procedure:

If an Allison customer brings their vehicle to your shop with complaint of this issue, or if this issue is discovered while performing customer maintenance or repair, please inform the customer that he or she may schedule an appointment with a Kenworth or Peterbilt dealer for this retrofit. For Kenworth models, reference Technical Information Bulletin 26-024; for Peterbilt models, reference Repair Notice 413-5.

NOTE: This issue is the responsibility of the OEM, and as such will not be repaired under Allison Transmission product warranty.

WARNING: Any validation of the issue above must be performed utilizing adequate safety procedures (i.e., service brake applied, park brake set, and wheels chocked) to ensure that the vehicle does not move during start sequence while in Range (Drive or Reverse).

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