

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-756

Date of Submission: November 27, 2017

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: 2008 Model Yr. End: 2018
Make: Freightliner, Western Star
Model: Cascadia, 4700, 4900, 5700, 6900
Production Dates: Begin: 03/27/2007
End: 10/30/2017

Descriptive Information:

Vehicles built with a certain stop light pressure switch within the above referenced build dates.

Number potentially involved: 436,095

Estimated percentage of involve with defect: Unknown

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

On certain vehicles after several hard brake applications, the brake light pressure switch may not activate the brake lights with a light application of the brake pedal.

If a noncompliance, provide the applicable FMVSS:

N/A

Check if this recall only affects products in certain geographic regions.

Describe the safety risk:

Brake lights not illuminating when the service brakes are applied would not signal to other motorists the intent of driver to slow the vehicle leading to an increased risk of a crash.

If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component.

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Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

December 2015, DTNA received a report of cruise re-engaging after brakes are applied. The original issue was diagnosed as a driver education issue and there was no indication that the condition effected the brake lights. April 2016, an additional review of warranty revealed a potential issue whereby the stop light switch may not activate. April 2016 to November 2016 returned switches were returned to the supplier where testing of the components showed no problem found. December 2016 to May 2017 DTNA continued to do an extensive investigation into the root cause of the failure which required more samples from the field. Obtaining return samples from warranty was slow since there were few failures on vehicles that were still under warranty. May 2017 through October 2017, DTNA used a new test setup which included utilizing a sealed electrical connector which was not used in the original test, but was more representative of production vehicles. Additionally, along with further testing by the supplier, it was concluded that it was possible for air pressure to build between the sensor and connector over time potentially causing the brake lights not to activate after several hard applications of the brake. November 2017, with an abundance of caution, DTNA decided to initiate a voluntary recall campaign.

Identify the Remedy

Describe the defect/noncompliance remedy program, including the manufacture’s plan for reimbursement.

Vehicles will be repaired by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities. Copies of the reimbursement plan will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

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.

Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date: 1/25/2018

Planned Dealer Notification End Date: 1/25/2018

Planned Owner Notification Begin Date: 1/25/2018

Planned Owner Notification End Date: 1/25/2018

Manufacture’s identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-756

DTNA Representative;



Andy Jones
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs