

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-784Date of Submission: **August 8, 2018**

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: 2018 Model Yr. End: 2019
Make: Freightliner
Model: Cascadia
Production Dates: Begin: 02/09/2017
End: 07/30/2018

Descriptive Information: *Vehicles within the referenced production dates equipped with a certain ZF pitman arm with a 14.6K or 14.7K rated axles.*

Number potentially involved: 116 Estimated percentage of involve with defect: 100%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance: *The pitman arm supplier's engineering analysis has indicated there is a possibility of a slightly reduced fatigue life of the pitman arm. Any potential fracture of the component would only occur toward the end of life of the part.*

Describe the safety risk: *If a crack occurs in the pitman arm and progresses completely through the component, it could result in separation of the part disconnecting the steering column from the steer axle, potentially leading to a loss of steering, increasing the risk of a crash.*

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

ZF North America, Inc.
800 Heath Street,
Lafayette, IN 47904

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

March 2018, the pitman arm supplier notified DTNA of a forging revision for certain pitman arms. The supplier indicated that the pitman arms did not meet the supplier design specifications but were acceptable for use. The supplier did not recommend a replacement in the field at that time. June 2018, the supplier notified DTNA that the suspect pitman arms should be replaced due to the lower fatigue endurance limits of the currently installed pitman arm. The supplier recommended the pitman arm to be replaced at the next service interval once the new pitman arms are available. DTNA began an investigation to determine the scope of the issue. August 2018, while the supplier engineering analysis has shown that a failure in the field is unlikely, in an abundance of caution, DTNA decided to initiate a voluntary safety recall for vehicles equipped with the suspect pitman arm.

Identify the Remedy

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

The affected pitman arm will be replaced with a new pitman arm. Repairs will be performed 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:	<i>10/06/2018</i>
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	<i>10/06/2018</i>
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	<i>10/06/2018</i>
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	<i>10/06/2018</i>

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): *FL-784*

DTNA Representative;



Andy Jones
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs