Defect / Noncompliance Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL937

Date of Submission: June 3, 2022

(Amended July 18, 2022) (Amended July 26, 2022)(Amended August 9, 2022)

Manufacturer: Daimler Truck North America LLC

P.O. BOX 3849

Portland, Oregon 97208

Type of Report: X Safety Defect Non-Compliance

Vehicle Information

Model Yr. Start: 2023 Model Yr. End: 2023

Make: Freightliner

Model: Business Class M2

Production Dates: Begin: Feb 1, 2022 End: May 14, 2022

Affected Population: 2,449

Model Yr. Start: 2023 Model Yr. End: 2023

Make: Freightliner Model: 108SD

Production Dates: Begin: Feb 1, 2022 End: May 14, 2022

Affected Population: 206

Model Yr. Start: 2023 Model Yr. End: 2023

Make: Freightliner Model: 114SD

Production Dates: Begin: Feb 1, 2022 End: May 14, 2022

Affected Population: 918

Descriptive Information:

On certain vehicles, a steering component upper U joint pinch bolt may not have been properly installed and inspected.

Basis for Determination of the Recall Population:

Trucks built in one particular plant during the time period above that experienced a discrepancy in the steering components may not have been properly inspected for joint integrity.

Number potentially involved: 3,573 vehicles

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Estimated percentage of involved with defect: 1%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

On certain vehicles, the Upper U Joint pinch bolt on the steering shaft may not have been properly inspected, thereby creating a risk that some small fraction of vehicles left the manufacturing line with the bolt improperly installed.

Describe the safety risk:

Improperly inspected joints increase the chances of an improperly installed joint. An improperly installed joint could disconnect leading to a loss of steering control and increase the risk of a crash.

Identify any warning which can precede or occur:

Regular maintenance intervals and pre-trip inspections require steering component inspections. It may be possible to detect loose components during routine inspections. Additionally the defect might be detected by visual recognition of the spline sticking out from the joint or from the pinch bolt groove being mislocated.

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

This is not applicable because the components involved were not defective.

Involved Components

Component Name: Pinch Bolt

Component Description: Upper U Joint Connection to Stub Shaft with Pinch Bolt

Component Part Number: 14-18771-000

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

On or around April 15, 2022 DTNA received a report of a missing pinch bolt in the steering system. On or around April 22, 2022 another report of a mislocated pinch bolt in the same location in the steering system was received. Both trucks were manufactured at the same plant. Out of concern that the two events were related to a larger issue, on or around April 26, DTNA began an investigation. There were no other warranty claims or reports found related to the defect. Within the investigation, it was determined that the issue arose from the manufacturing at one particular plant. That manufacturing plant completed containment activities on in May 2022. Also in May 2022, DTNA decided to conduct a safety recall on the above referenced vehicles. In August, 2022 it was determined that 5 trucks originally identified to be within the recall population, were still within DTNA's possession. Those trucks were remedied on site and removed from the recall population.

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Identify the Remedy

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

Vehicles will be inspected and the joint will be re-installed correctly if needed. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Truck North America authorized service facilities. Daimler Truck North America shall be offering a refund for owner-paid repairs covered by this recall if the repair was performed prior to the date indicated in the reimbursement plan, which will be posted with owner's notification letter. Owners are directed to seek reimbursement through authorized dealers.

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:8/01/2022Planned Dealer Notification End Date:8/01/2022Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:8/01/2022Planned Owner Notification End Date:8/01/2022

Does DTNA plan to file inconsequentiality petition? Yes X No

Manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-937

DTNA Representative;

Tiffani Torgeson

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Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Affairs