

## Defect / Noncompliance Information Report

(Section 573.6)

**FL937**

**Date of Submission:** June 3, 2022

**Manufacturer:** Daimler Truck North America LLC  
P.O. BOX 3849  
Portland, Oregon 97208

**Type of Report:**  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

### 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:** 3,578 vehicles

**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.

**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.:**

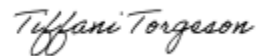
Customer notification will be made by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected.

Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date: 7/25/2022  
Planned Dealer Notification End Date: 7/25/2022  
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date: 7/25/2022  
Planned Owner Notification End Date: 7/25/2022

Does DTNA plan to file inconsequentiality petition?  Yes  No

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

DTNA Representative;



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Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Affairs