

PACCAR Inc

Law Department

May 2, 2003

SENT VIA FACSIMILE (202) 366-7882 & E-MAIL

Attn: Mr. George Person

Recall Management Division
 Office of Defects Investigation (NEF-111)
 Safety Assurance
 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
 400 Seventh Street SW
 Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Jost JSK 37U Fifth Wheels
Kenworth Recall No.: 03KW4
Peterbilt Recall No.: 483-C

Dear Mr. Person:

On April 25, 2003, PACCAR determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles described below, and is furnishing notification to NHTSA in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 "Defect and Noncompliance Reports."

Description of the Defect

Jost International has determined that under certain loading conditions, fatigue cracks can initiate in the weld joining the bracket pin to its mounting flange on the fifth wheel assembly. Weld failures could lead to the loss of the pin and the potential separation of the fifth wheel top plate from its mounting structure without warning.

Identification of Affected Vehicles

Based upon preliminary information from an initial search of manufacturing records, the following vehicles are involved:

- Peterbilt models 379, 378, 387, 385 and 357 which were manufactured between Jan. 21, 2003 and April 22, 2003. Peterbilt determined the recall population is comprised of 19 vehicles in total.
- From the initial review, Kenworth determined the recall population to be comprised of approximately 520 vehicles. The affected models and dates of manufacture will be provided once available.

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Chronology of Events Leading to Recall

Jost International Inc. (Jost) notified Peterbilt on April 23, 2003, and Kenworth on April 18, 2003 that it filed a 573 Defect Report with NHTSA regarding its JSK37U series 5th wheels manufactured between September 3, 1999 and April 14, 2003. Jost has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety could exist in the 5th wheel.

Description of Remedy

Kenworth and Peterbilt concur with Jost's decision that a safety related defect may exist. Kenworth and Peterbilt will initiate a Safety Recall to replace the bracket pins.

Reimbursement Prior to Recall

Refer to the general reimbursement plan submitted by PACCAR. The start date for the reimbursement period will be one year prior to issuing this notification, May 2, 2002. The end date for the reimbursement will be 10 days after the last mailing of the initial owner notification pursuant to 49 CFR 577.5.

Identification of Recall Schedule

Kenworth and Peterbilt anticipate that the owner notification campaign will be initiated within 30 days. Kenworth's number for this campaign is "03KW4". Peterbilt's identifier for this campaign is "403-C".

Very truly yours,



Kenneth R. Brownstein
 Senior Counsel

KRB:ptg

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