

Daimler Trucks North America LLC

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
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September 2009
FL501A
NHTSA #07V-306
REMINDER NOTICE

Subject: AAC Front Axle Tie Rod and Steering Arm Fasteners

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. This notice is also sent in accordance with the Canadian Motor Vehicles Safety Act.

Freightliner LLC, on behalf of its Freightliner Trucks Division and its wholly owned subsidiaries, Sterling Truck Corporation, Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation, and Western Star Truck Sales, Inc., has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Freightliner Business Class M2, Century Class S/T, Classic, Classic XL, Columbia, Coronado, and FLD vehicles; Sterling A/L-Line and Acterra vehicles; Freightliner Custom Chassis B2/S2 school bus chassis (Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner C2), MB shuttle bus chassis, MT45/55 step van chassis, and XC motorhome chassis; and Western Star 4900 vehicles manufactured between January 5, 2007, and May 17, 2007, with certain Axle Alliance Company front axles.

During front axle assembly, the fasteners that attach the steering arm or the tie rod arms to the spindle may have been over or under tightened. Incorrectly tightened fasteners may fatigue and fracture, resulting in a possible vehicle crash without prior warning.

The steering arm and tie rod arm fasteners will be replaced. The steering arm will be inspected for clearance to the king pin boss.

This is a follow up to a previous communication. Our records indicate that your vehicle has not yet had this recall performed. Please make arrangement to have this repair done as soon as possible. If it has been completed, please disregard this letter.

Parts are now available for authorized dealers to order. Contact your authorized dealer to arrange to have your vehicle(s) modified and to assure that parts are available at the dealer. To locate a dealer, search online at www.FreightlinerTrucks.com, www.SterlingTrucks.com, or contact the Warranty Campaigns Department for assistance.

When you contact your dealer, refer to campaign number **FL501A**. Once kit(s) are received at the dealership, the Recall will take approximately an hour and a half will be performed at no charge to you.

IMPORTANT: When the Recall has been completed, please ensure that a label has been affixed to your vehicle referencing **FL501A**.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s) which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner. If you have leased this vehicle, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to the lessee within 10 days. If you are a subsequent stage manufacturer, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to your distributors and retail outlets within five working days.

If you are not able to have the defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, which is not longer than 60 days after you tender the vehicle for repair, please contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, e-mail address WarrantyCampaigns@freightliner.com, or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) FTL-HELP or (800) STL-HELP, after normal business hours. You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or to <http://www.safercar.gov>. If your vehicle is involved in the Canadian portion, you may wish to notify Transport Canada, ASFAD, Place de Ville Tower C, 330 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5, or phone (800) 333-0510.

We regret any inconvenience this action may cause but feel certain you understand our interest in motor vehicle safety.

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT

Enclosure