



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION

3033 WAYNE TRACE, P.O. BOX 10088, FORT WAYNE, IN 46850-0088

RECEIVED

TRUCK GROUP

2003 MAY 28 P 4: 05

OFFICE OF DEFECTS  
FIVE STAR

May 2003

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington D.C. 20590

03V-192 ① of ③

**Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report**

Pursuant to Part 573.6, this Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report is submitted by International Truck and Engine Corporation.

This report relates to a steering knuckle that was provided by Dana Corp. Our contact at Dana Corp is:

Dan Flight  
Dana Corporation  
6938 Elm Valley Drive  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
Phone: (269) 567-1088

**(1) INTERNATIONAL RECALL NUMBER ASSIGNED:**

- 03509 (NHTSA recall not assigned yet.)

**(2) VEHICLE MODELS INVOLVED:**

- Severe Service: 8600 Models

**(3) MODEL YEARS INVOLVED:**

- 2003 Only

**(4) OTHER IDENTIFICATION NECESSARY TO DESCRIBE VEHICLES:**

- With Dana Spicer E-1202I 12,000#, E-1202W 12,000#, and E-1002W 10,000# front non-drive steer axles

(5) **VEHICLE MANUFACTURING DATES:**

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- First build: 6/21/2002
- Last build: 5/5/2003

(6) **VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED:**

<i>Model Series</i>	<i>U.S. Quantity</i>	<i>Canadian Quantity</i>
8600	711	115

(7) **PORTION OF POPULATION ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN DEFECT:**

- Dana estimates that 50 of the defective steering arms were shipped, or about 6% of the vehicles in the suspect population.

(8) **DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:**

- The tapered hole in the steer arm was machined oversized on vehicles with the Dana E-1202 and E1002 Steer Axle w/ Integral Knuckle (Dana p/n 971683).

(9) **RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY:**

- The clearance between a correctly sized drag link ball stud and the oversized tapered bore is sufficiently great enough to allow the ball stud to fatigue and potentially break. If the ball stud breaks, all steering control of the vehicle is lost.
- The clearance between a correctly sized drag link ball stud and the oversized tapered bore is sufficiently great enough that the castle nut could completely back off, causing the drag link to disconnect from the steering arm. If the drag link becomes disconnected, all steering control of the vehicle is lost.

(10) **CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF A SAFETY DEFECT:**

- 3/3/2003: Field report of a loose drag link during dealer pre-delivery inspection.
- 4/10/2003: Dana Corp first notified International of a potential defect relating to the tapered hole in the steering arm of certain steer axles.
- 4/23/2003 Met with Dana to determine scope of issue, containment actions and possible field remedies.
- 5/5/2003: Search conducted to define suspect population.
- 5/15/2003: International declared a Safety Recall.

**(11) PROGRAM TO BE TAKEN TO REMEDY DEFECT:**

- All units in population will be inspected. If any units contain the oversized tapered bore, the steering knuckle assembly and drag link will be replaced.
- All vehicles fall within the warranty period; therefore, our plan for reimbursement of pre-notification remedies on file and dated 2/6/2003 does not apply.

**(12) THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS RECALL IS:**

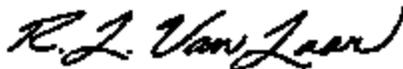
- Notify International Dealers by: May 30, 2003
- Notify International Customers by: June 6, 2003

**(13) PROCEDURE TO INFORM SECRETARY OF FAILURE TO REMEDY WITHOUT CHARGE:**

- Paragraph to be added to owner notification letter as follows:  
"If you take your vehicle to your International dealer on a mutually agreed upon service date and the dealer does not remedy this condition without charge on that date or within five days, you can obtain assistance by following the procedure described in the Owner Assistance Guide section of your Owner's Manual. You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 if your International dealer fails to remedy or is unable to remedy this condition without charge or within a reasonable time."

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (260) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,



R. L. Van Laar  
Compliance Manager  
**INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION**

cc: Mike Roeth – VP Reliability and Quality