

# Daimler Trucks North America LLC

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April 2010  
FL513AB  
NHTSA #07V-403  
REMINDER NOTICE

## Subject: Rack and Pinion Steering – Steering Stops

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.

Daimler Trucks North America LLC, on behalf of its Freightliner Trucks Division, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Freightliner Cascadia, Century Class S/T, and Columbia vehicles manufactured November 1, 2004, through September 26, 2007, with rack and pinion steering. (Note: One Freightliner Classic XL vehicle and one Freightliner Coronado vehicle are also involved in this recall.)

The ball and socket assembly at the inner end of the driver's side tie rod may be damaged in a sharp turn. Excessive tie rod angles may loosen the tie rod in the ball socket or damage the threaded tie rod socket attachment to the steering rack. The threaded end of the ball and socket assembly may fracture and separate, making the vehicle more difficult to control at higher speeds and resulting in a possible vehicle crash.

The front axle steering stops will be changed to prevent interference with the tie rod ball and socket assembly, and steering components will be replaced.

**Our records indicate that your vehicle(s) has not yet had this recall performed. Please make arrangements 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 the recall performed and to ensure that parts are available at the dealership. To locate a dealer, search online at [www.FreightlinerTrucks.com](http://www.FreightlinerTrucks.com) or contact the Warranty Campaigns Department for assistance.

When you contact your dealer, refer to campaign number **FL513AB**. Once parts are received at the dealership, the recall will take approximately three to six hours, depending on the work needed, and 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 **FL513AB**.

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 [DTNA.Warranty.Campaigns@Daimler.com](mailto:DTNA.Warranty.Campaigns@Daimler.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