

Daimler Trucks North America
Nasser Zamani
Senior Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

February 24, 2011

Dan Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report, Sterling Car Hauler EPA04 MBE4000 LPFL

Mr. Smith

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith reports a voluntary safety campaign to recall certain Sterling L-Line vehicles equipped with car hauler bodies and chassis, and EPA04 MBE4000 engines with low pressure fuel lines which may develop leaks. There are approximately 2, 263 total vehicles involved. It is estimated that 2,117 of these vehicles reside in the United States, and 146 reside in Canada.

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail# 7006 3450 0003 7727 0704

A Daimler Company

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DAIMLER

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

February 24, 2011

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219

Brands: Sterling

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: L-Line with car hauler body/chassis

Model Years affected: 2005, 2006, 2007

Manufacture Dates: September 13, 2004, through October 10, 2007

Basis for determining population: Sterling L-Line vehicles configured with car hauler bodies and chassis, and equipped with EPA04 MBE4000 engines with a fuel filter mounted at the rear of the engine.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Detroit Diesel Corporation, C/o Daimler Trucks North America LLC

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: To be determined

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: Unknown

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Lower low pressure fuel lines between primary fuel pump and engine mounted fuel filter, and upper low pressure fuel line between engine mounted fuel filter and engine block may develop a substantial diesel fuel leak from cracking due to undetermined causes, or from abrasion due to contact with other components, potentially creating a road hazard increasing the risk of a motor vehicle accident.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events:

Feb 2011: NHTSA initiated inquiry into low pressure fuel line leaks on subject vehicles
In-depth review indicated issue is not limited to one customer and may be significant in scope.
Reports of substantial fuel leaks identified

Feb 2011: DTNA decides to conduct a voluntary safety recall campaign
DTNA's investigation to identify root cause and determine remedy continues

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: Not applicable

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: The upper and lower low pressure fuel lines will be replaced with more robust fuel lines, and the vehicles will be inspected and reworked as required to ensure no other components come in contact with the upper and lower low pressure fuel lines. In the interim vehicle operators will be reminded to follow the Sterling L-Line "Driver Pretrip Inspection" guidelines related to the inspection of fuel lines and fittings, and instructed to inspect their vehicles to ensure that no other components are contacting the low pressure fuel lines.
Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(ii) Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date: Customer notification will be by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected.
Notification date to be determined

(c)(9) Information for tire recalls: Not Applicable

(c)(10) Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number: To be determined