FREIGHTLINER LLC
A DaimlerChrysler Company

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OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

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November 25, 2003

03V-500 ①of②

Kenneth N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance (NSA-01)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report (FL-415)

Mr. Weinstein:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Freightliner LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 400 Century Class, Columbia, and Coronado heavy-duty trucks manufactured in Cleveland, North Carolina and Santiago Mexico September 8 through September 22, 2003 for a potential defect in the air junction manifold.

Attached is Freightliner's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Timothy Blubaugh

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
DOSH, Legal Unit
10th Floor
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Enclosure

Certified Mail Article Number:

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FREIGHTLINER®
LLC

A DaimlerChrysler Company

Defect Information Report

03V-500 ②of②

(Section 573.6)

November 25, 2003

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Freightliner LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-6219

Brands: Freightliner

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:
Model(s) affected: Century Class, Columbia, Coronado
Manufacture Dates: September 8, 2003 thru September 18, 2003
Basis for determining population: Vehicles manufactured in Cleveland, North Carolina and Santiago Mexico September 8 through September 22, 2003 with A12-14736-002 air junction manifold.
Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:
IMI Norgren Limited
P.O. Box 22, Eastern Avenue
Lichfield, Staffordshire WS13 6SB, UK
+44 (0) 1543 265000

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 400

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: less than 10%

(c)(5) Description of the defect: A plastic push-to-connect air line fitting cartridge may improperly welded into the nylon junction block housing and allow an air line to become disconnected.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events:
On September 17, 2003, the Cleveland, North Carolina truck plant reported air line separations from the air junction manifold under the instrument panel on the production line. Completed vehicles were held back from delivery

Completed vehicle and dash build-up assembly testing was initiated on September 22 at Freightliner production facilities to verify good manifolds were installed and would function normally.

Norgren identified a suspect production period when process changes were made in August that could affect the quality of the parts.

All known air line separations have occurred before the vehicles were delivered to dealers or customers.

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

(c)(8) Remedial program: Repairs will be performed by Freightliner dealerships and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by Freightliner to do their own warranty repairs.

Estimated Owner Notification Date: Customer notification will be by first class mail using Freightliner records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately January 23,2004

Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c) (9) Communications sent to dealers and owners: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c) (10) Copy of proposed owner notification letter: A draft will be sent for ODI review when available.

(c) (11) Manufacturer's campaign number: FL-418