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OFFICE
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Gary W. Rossow
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August 23, 2000

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Office of Defects Investigation, Room 5326
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Attn: Jonathan D. White

00V-248 (61)

Subject: Information Report, FL-270

In accordance with Title 49, Part 573, Freightliner LLC herewith submits an information report for a new recall campaign to recall Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation RV chassis equipped with defective rear axle wheel covers.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Rossow

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA

Certified Mail No Z 224 782 518

Section 573.5 Defect Information Report

Date: August 23, 2000

(c) (1) Manufacturer: FREIGHTLINER LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 735-8078

00V-248 (22)

(c) (2) Vehicles Identification:

(ii) Model(s) affected: Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation model XC RV chassis

Manufacture Dates: May 1999 through April 2000

Basis for determining population: The first and last vehicles built with the subject part

(iv) Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: N/A

(c) (3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 3400

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

(c) (5) Description of the defect: The components that retain the rear axle wheel covers may have been damaged during installation. This can result in a separation of the wheel cover.

(c) (6) Chronology of principal events: In June 2000 reports were received of rear axle wheel covers coming off. An investigation as to the cause began in late June 2000.

A decision to recall was made.

(c) (7) Noncompliance test data: NA

(c) (8)(I) 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.

(II) 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 October 5, 2000.

Remedy: The wheel covers will be replaced with a different design that has an improved means of retention.

(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-270