

# VOLVO

June 9, 2006

**Subject: New Safety Recall  
RVXX0603, Disc Wheel Spacer**

06V-213  
(3 pages)

**Attention:**

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

**Submitted via Email to Patricia Wallace.**

The following information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a defect relating to motor vehicle safety.

**573.6(c)(1)**

Volvo Trucks North America  
P.O. Box 26115  
Greensboro, NC 27402-6115

**573.6(c)(2)**

Certain Volvo VHD model vehicles manufactured with wheel spacers from December 2001 through June 2005.

The selection of vehicles was based on the wheel spacer part number along with the Vehicle Identification Number model designator for the VHD.

**Model Year**

VHD – 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006

**573.6(c)(3)**

Approximately one thousand ninety-seven (1,097) vehicles are affected by the recall. Of the one thousand ninety-seven, there are eight hundred and seventy three (873) vehicles domiciled in the United States.

**573.6(c)(4)**

The percentage of the 1,097 vehicles expected to contain the defect is unknown.

**573.6(c)(5)**

The material specification of the wheel spacer may not be suitable for some applications where severe operating conditions can result in degradation (distortion) of the wheel spacer. Degradation of the wheel spacer potentially could lead to a loss of clamp load which may result in loose wheel nuts. If the wheel nuts loosen for any reason, damage to the wheel studs and/or wheel may occur, which if left uncorrected, may lead to complete separation of the wheel(s) from the truck.

**573.6 (c)(6)**

Chronology of principle events that were the basis for the determination:

- 3/21/06 NHTSA issues Preliminary Evaluation letter to Volvo Trucks North America as a result of a complaint.
- 5/4/06 Material Specification study initiated on spacer.
- 5/5/06 Volvo submits response to Preliminary Evaluation to NHTSA.
- 5/24/06 NHTSA contacted Regulatory Affairs group suggesting that remainder of population be addressed as a safety recall.
- 5/26/06 Study findings suggest that material not suitable for some vocational applications.
- 6/5/06 Volvo Trucks North America decided that the condition described in this notification constitutes a defect and that such defect is safety related.
- 6/9/06 NHTSA notified that Volvo Trucks North America would initiate a voluntary safety recall.

Summary of Warranty Claims, Field or Service Reports, and other information:

Type	Quantity	Receipt Dates
Customer Complaint	5	7/23/04, 10/11/04, 6/21/05, 6/29/05, 9/13/05
Field Report	13	10/11/04, 10/22/04, 4/8/05, 4/12/05, 4/25/05, 5/17/05, 6/9/05, 6/14/05, 6/21/05, 6/29/05, 7/6/05, 7/12/05, 9/13/05
Property Damage	1	6/14/05

**573.6(c)(7)**

Not applicable

**573.6(c)(8)**

Volvo Trucks North America will initiate a voluntary owner notification, and recall all 1,097 vehicles.

The recall repair will consist of replacing the wheel spacers and inspection and replacement (as required) of the wheels and wheel equipment.

Reimbursement for cost incurred by the owner for "prenotification remedies" will be addressed on a case-by-case basis according to the "General Plan for Reimbursement of Pre-notification Remedies" which was published December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

The number, which has been assigned to this recall by Volvo Trucks North America is **RVXX0603**.

A safety alert that will be distributed on or before June 12, 2006 will inform the dealers. The owner letters will be mailed on or before June 23, 2006 advising the owners of the recall and the precautions that can be taken until their truck is repaired.

An advance copy of the owner letter will be submitted to NHTSA for review and approval prior to release to the owners.

If there are any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy L. LaFon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Timothy" and last name "LaFon" clearly distinguishable.

Timothy L. LaFon  
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