



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

JUL 25 2007

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

MR. NASSER ZAMANI
MANAGER GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL AFFAIRS
FREIGHTLINER LLC
4747 NORTH CHANNEL AVENUE
PORTLAND, OR 97208-3849

NVS-215kjs
07V-306

Subject: AAC AXLE STEERING ARM BOLTS

Dear MR. ZAMANI:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

FCCC/B2/2007-2008
FREIGHTLINER/BUSINESS CLASS M2/2007-2008
FREIGHTLINER/CENTURY ST/2007-2008
FREIGHTLINER/CLASSIC/2007-2008
FREIGHTLINER/CLASSIC XL/2007-2008
FREIGHTLINER/COLUMBIA/2007-2008
FREIGHTLINER/CORONADO/2007-2008
FREIGHTLINER/FLD120SD/2007-2008
STERLING/A-LINE/2007-2008
STERLING/ACTERRA/2007-2008
STERLING/L-LINE/2007-2008
THOMAS BUILT/SAF-T-LINER C2/2007-2008
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/HDX/2007-2008
WESTERN STAR/4900/2007-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-306

Mfg's Report Date: July 3, 2007

Components: STEERING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 18,000

Summary:

CERTAIN FREIGHTLINER SCHOOL BUS CHASSIS, HEAVY TRUCKS, VAN CHASSIS, RV MOTORHOME CHASSIS, AND THOMAS BUILT SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM JANUARY 5 TO MAY 17, 2007, EQUIPPED WITH AXLE ALLIANCE COMPANY (AAC) FRONT AXLES. DURING THE FRONT AXLE ASSEMBLY, THE FASTENERS THAT ATTACH THE STEERING ARM OR TIE ROD ARMS TO THE SPINDLE MAY BE OVER OR UNDER TIGHTENED.

Consequence:

INCORRECTLY TORQUED STEERING ARM FASTENERS MAY FATIGUE AND FRACTURE WHICH COULD CAUSE A CRASH WITHOUT WARNING.

Remedy:

FREIGHTLINER WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE VEHICLES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT AUGUST 24, 2007. OWNERS CAN CONTACT FREIGHTLINER AT 1-800-547-0712.

Notes:

FREIGHTLINER RECALL NO. FL-501. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

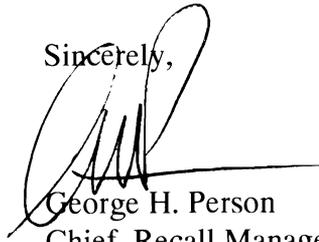
Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227 or by email at KELLY.SCHULER@DOT.GOV. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large loop at the top and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement