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RECALL MGMT DIV.

DAIMLER

**08V-137
(3 pages)**

Daimler Trucks North America
Nasser Zamani
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

March 19, 2008

Dan Smith
Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report FL-527, 8K Thin Spindle-nut

Mr. Smith

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 28,764, Freightliner, Sterling and Freightliner Custom Chassis vehicles manufactured January 26, 2000 through March 24, 2008 with a defect in the four piece spindle-nut set.

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# 7003 2260 0001 3403 7026

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland OR 97217-7699
503-745-6910 Phone
503-745-5544 Fax
NasserZamani@Freightliner.com

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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

March 19, 2008

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

Brands: Freightliner, Sterling, Freightliner Custom Chassis

(c)(2) **Vehicles identification:**

Model(s) affected: Acterra, Business Class FLN, Business Class M2, FS65 Chassis, FB65 Chassis, B2 Chassis

Model Years affected: 2001 through 2008

Manufacture Dates: January 26, 2000 through March 24, 2008

Basis for determining population: Trucks, cab chassis, and bus chassis manufactured with ArvinMeritor or Axle Alliance Company 6,000 through 8,000 pound front axles utilizing a four piece spindle-nut set.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

ArvinMeritor
Meritor Heavy Vehicle Systems, LLC
2135 W. Maple Road
Troy, MI 48084
Jack R. McKenzie – Phone: 248.435.9199

Axle Alliance Company, LLC
6650 North Basin, Suite A
Portland, OR. 97217
Hans Seitz – Phone: 503-745-4979

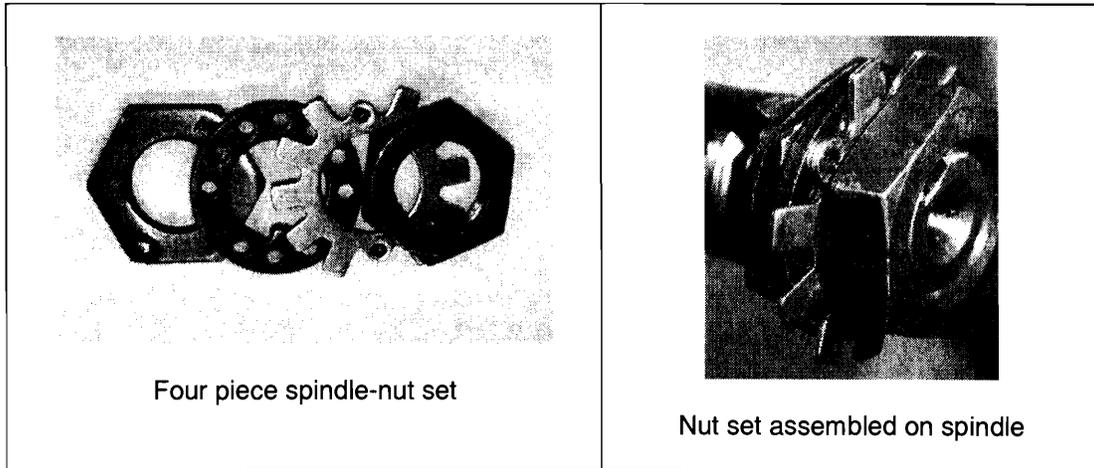
(c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 28,764

<i>Make / Model</i>	<i>Count</i>
Sterling / Acterra	4,950
Freightliner / Business Class, FLN	654
Freightliner / Business Class M2	15,077
Freightliner Custom Chassis / B2 School Bus Chassis	1,300
Freightliner Custom Chassis / FB65 Conventional Bus Chassis	212
Freightliner Custom Chassis / FS65 School Bus Chassis	1.110

(c)(4) **Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** 100%

(c)(5) **Description of the defect:** Installation with thin spindle nut may lead to incorrect end play, cone spin, excessive heat, degradation of lubrication, wear of the spindle nut and bearing journal, oil contamination with metal shavings, and premature bearing failure. Continued operation may lead to wheel separation.

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49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Outer wheel bearing failure will cause noise and vibration that the driver will feel through the steering wheel and cause the Antilock Braking System warning light to illuminate. Continued operation with the ABS warning light illuminated may lead to wheel separation and a vehicle crash.

- (c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** Reports of wheel separations involving vehicles outside of FL 424 (04V-272) prompted investigations into the effectiveness of the Remedy.
- (c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:** not applicable
- (c)(8) **Remedial program:** The permanent remedy will be determined pending validation. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America dealerships and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by Daimler Trucks North America to do their own warranty repairs.

Estimated Dealer Notification Date: May 23, 2008

Estimated Owner Notification Date: Customer notification will be by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately May 23, 2008

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

- (c)(9) **Information for tire recalls:** not applicable
- (c)(10) **Communications sent to dealers and owners:** Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.
- (c)(11) **Copy of proposed owner notification letter:** A draft will be sent for ODI review when available.
- (c)(12) **Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-527