

DAIMLER

Daimler Trucks North America
Nasser Zamani
Senior Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

July 13, 2012

Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215, Rm. W45-206)
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

**Re: Defect Information Report – Supplemental Report No. 5
11V-514, FL-614, Rack and Pinion Steering Pinion Bearings
Representative Owner Notice**

Ms. Lewis,

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith submits supplemental defect information and a representative copy of the document distributed to owners.

(c)(8)(ii) Owners of 9,689, vehicles were notified on July 6, 2012.

(c)(10) A copy of communications sent to owners is attached.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Amy Martin, CAL-OSHA
Attachment

Daimler Trucks North America LLC

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. Box 4090
Portland, OR 97208-4090
800.547.0712 Phone
503.745.9009 Fax

June 2012
FL614ABC
NHTSA #11V-514

Subject: Rack and Pinion Steering Pinion Bearings

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Daimler Trucks North America LLC, on behalf of its Freightliner Trucks Division, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Freightliner Cascadia, Century Class S/T, Classic XL, Columbia, and Coronado vehicles manufactured November 1, 2004, through June 15, 2010, with a ThyssenKrupp rack and pinion steering system.

The lower pinion bearing of the rack and pinion steering system may corrode and fail, allowing possible axial and radial movement of the pinion valve assembly. This movement may cause an unexpected steering condition, making the vehicle more difficult to control and increasing the risk of a vehicle crash.

The interim recall repair has been validated and is now the final repair. **If a vehicle has had an interim repair or rack and pinion gear replacement with a current style gear, no further work is needed.** Rack and pinion gears will be inspected. Those that pass the inspection will have new bellows installed and grease added to the bottom pinion bearing. Gears that fail the inspection will be replaced.

Please contact an authorized Daimler Trucks North America dealer to arrange to have the recall performed and to ensure that parts are available at the dealership. To locate an authorized dealer, search online at www.Daimler-TrucksNorthAmerica.com. The Recall will take approximately three to four hours and will be performed at no charge to you.

You may be liable for any progressive damage that results from your failure to complete the Recall within a reasonable time after receiving notification.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s) which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner. If you have leased this vehicle, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to the lessee within 10 days. If you are a subsequent stage manufacturer, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to your distributors and retail outlets within five working days. If you have paid to have this recall condition corrected prior to this notice, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement. Please see the reverse side of this notice for details.

If you have questions about this Recall, please contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time Monday through Friday, e-mail address DTNA.Warranty.Campaigns@Daimler.com, or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) FTL-HELP after normal business hours. If you are not able to have the defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, you may wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We regret any inconvenience this action may cause but feel certain you understand our interest in motor vehicle safety.

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT

Enclosure

Reimbursement to Customers for Repairs Performed Prior to Recall

If you have already **paid** to have this recall condition corrected you may be eligible to receive reimbursement.

Requests for reimbursement may include parts and labor. Reimbursement may be limited to the amount the repair would have cost if completed by an authorized Daimler Trucks North America LLC dealer. The following documentation must be presented to your dealer for consideration for reimbursement.

Please provide original or clear copies of all receipts, invoices, and repair orders that show:

- The name and address of the person who paid for the repair.
- The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of the vehicle that was repaired.
- What problem occurred, what repair was done, when the repair was done.
- Who repaired the vehicle.
- The total cost of the repair expense that is being claimed.
- Proof of payment for the repair (such as the front and back of a cancelled check or a credit card receipt).

Reimbursement will be made by check from your Daimler Trucks North America LLC dealer.

Please speak with your Daimler Trucks North America LLC authorized dealer concerning this matter.