

**DAIMLER**

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

March 1, 2013

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

**Re: Defect Information Report FL-640, MT45G and MT55G Gasoline Fuel Tanks**

Ms. Lewis,

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 2825 Freightliner Custom Chassis MT45G and MT55G Front Gasoline Engine Walk-In Van Chassis manufactured February 15, 2010 through April 30, 2012 and equipped with certain gasoline fuel tanks that could experience fatigue cracks potentially leading to leakage of gasoline and fumes.

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Amy Martin, Chief Counsel, CAL-OSHA  
Enclosure  
Certified Mail# 7003 2260 0001 3404 2457

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## Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

March 1, 2013

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

**Brands:** Freightliner Custom Chassis

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

**Model(s) affected:** Freightliner Custom Chassis MT45G and MT55G Front Gasoline Engine Walk-In Van Chassis

**Model Years affected:** 2011, 2012 and 2013

**Manufacture Dates:** Approximately February 15<sup>th</sup> 2010 through April 30<sup>th</sup> 2012

**Basis for determining population:** Fuel Tank manufacture dates and delivery data. Suspect components manufactured through December, 2011

**Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:** Tankcraft Corporation.

**(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 2825

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

**(c)(5) Description of the defect:**

Certain gasoline fuel tanks may experience cracks in both the tank skin material and welds due to fatigue potentially leading to leakage of gasoline and fumes. The root cause may be due to stress concentration at certain welds and flexure of the lower tank surface. Tanks built after December 2011 do not have same weld configuration.

**49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety:** A fuel leak, when in the presence of an ignition source could increase the risk of a fire.

**(c)(6) Chronology of principal events:** December 2012 investigation began into warranty claims. January 2013 test report received detailing fuel tank failure mode. February 2013. DTNA voluntary decided to conduct a safety campaign to recall potentially affected fuel tanks.

**(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data:** Not applicable.

**(c)(8) (i) Remedial program:** Potentially affected vehicles will be inspected and fuel tanks built before January 2012 will be replaced. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities.

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

**(ii) Estimated Owner and Dealer 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 no later than April 29, 2013.

Dealer and distributor notification will be completed no later than April 29, 2013.

**(c)(9) Information for tire recalls:** Not Applicable.

**(c)(10) Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners:** Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

**(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-640