



June 7, 2013

SENT VIA E-MAIL (RMD.ODI@DOT.GOV)

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation (NEF-111)  
Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: **Cab Access Step**  
**Kenworth Recall No.: 13KWG**

Dear Ms. Timian:

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573, PACCAR Inc hereby provides notice to NHTSA of its intention to voluntarily recall the affected population of vehicles identified below. This recall involves vehicles manufactured by the Kenworth Truck Company, a division of PACCAR Inc.

**Manufacturer - 573.6(c)(1)**

Kenworth Truck Company  
10630 NE 38th Pl.  
Kirkland, WA 98033

**Identification of Vehicles Potentially Containing Defect - 573.6(c)(2)(ii)**

The vehicles that may potentially contain the defect are model year 2013 and 2014 Kenworth T440 vehicles that were manufactured between July 19, 2012 and March 20, 2013.

**Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing Defect - 573.6(c)(3)**

The recall affects 19 vehicles registered in the United States.

**Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Contain Defect - 573.6(c)(4)**

All of the affected vehicles are estimated to contain the defect.

**Description of the Defect - 573.6(c)(5)**

The defect at issue involves the position of the tread plate, which does not fully align with the cab door opening on the affected vehicles. The current placement of the tread plate leaves the forwardmost section of the step without sufficient slip protection, as shown in the photos below.



The absence of a slip-resistant surface that extends to the front edge of the step could cause a person to slip and become injured while climbing into or out of the cab.

**Chronology of Events Leading to Recall – 573.6(c)(6)**

On March 8, 2013, employees at the Kenworth Chillicothe plant observed that the slip-resistant step surface on a T440 did not fully align with the cab door opening.

Subsequently, the design engineering team initiated an investigation of the step assembly. It was discovered that the assembly was originally installed on a different vehicle model, for which the slip-resistant step surface was properly aligned with the door opening.

Design modifications were proposed to relocate the slip resistant tread plate farther forward on step assemblies intended for use on T440 vehicles.

On June 3, 2013, Kenworth determined that the misaligned tread plate constituted a defect affecting product safety, for which a recall should be initiated.

**Description of Remedy - 573.6(c)(8)**

Kenworth proposes to remedy the defect by removing the step assembly and installing a new step assembly with a tread plate that is designed to be aligned with the door opening of a T440.

**Communications Sent to Dealers and Owners – 573.6(c)(10)**

Subject to NHTSA approval, a customer letter will be sent within 30 days.

**Identification of Manufacturer’s Campaign Number - 573.6(c)(11)**

The Kenworth number for this campaign is “13KWG.”

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,

s/Pamela S. Tonglao

Pamela S. Tonglao  
Counsel  
PACCAR Inc