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By Recall Management division at 10:05 am, Nov 29, 2013

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

November 26, 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-654, Seat Belt Buckles

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 26,310 Freightliner 108SD, 114SD, 122SD, Coronado, Argosy, Cascadia, Columbia, M2 Business Class, and Western Star 4700, 4900, 6900, manufactured August 5, 2013 through November 15, 2013 and equipped with certain seat belt buckles manufactured by Indiana Mills and Manufacturing Inc. (IMMI) that may not comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS 209).

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

A Daimler Company

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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

November 26, 2013

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

Brands: Freightliner, Western Star.

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected:

Freightliner: 108SD, 114SD, 122SD, Coronado, Argosy, Cascadia, Columbia, M2 Business Class,

Western Star 4700, 4900, 6900.

Model Years affected: 2014

Manufacture Dates: August 5, 2013 through November 15, 2013

Basis for determining population: Delivery of suspect components from supplier.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Lisa Hanson, Director of Corporate Quality

Indiana Mills and Manufacturing Inc.

18881 US 31 North, Westfield, IN 46074

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 26310 in the United States.

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

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Per Indiana Mills and Manufacturing Inc. (IMMI) defect information report (NHTSA recall number TBD), "Certain IMMI seat belt assemblies equipped with L9 buckles do not satisfy the requirements of S4.3 (g) of FMVSS 209. When the push button on the buckle is pressed to release the latch plate for egress, the latch plate can become partially engaged with the buckle. Under this circumstance, the partially engaged latch plate may not separate from the buckle when a force of 22N is applied.

The root cause of the noncompliance is associated with the locking pawl (part number 916030) inside the L9 buckle. Some locking pawls from specific manufacturing lots were produced with an excessively large burr. The burr on the locking pawl can catch the edge of the latch plate when the button is pressed to unlatch the buckle, causing a partial engagement condition."

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: In the event of accident or emergency, vehicle occupants may be unable to exit the vehicle immediately and an injury could occur.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: November 2013 IMMI informed DTNA that a potential noncompliance with FMVSS 209 existed on certain seat belt buckles. DTNA decided to conduct a voluntary recall on affected population.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data:

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: Potentially affected vehicles will be inspected and replacement buckles will be installed as required. 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 January 26, 2014.

Dealer and distributor notification will be completed no later than January 26, 2014.

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(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-654