

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

March 1, 2011

Dan Smith
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 – Previously 10V-341
MBE4000 Grid Heater, Non-School Bus Applications**

Mr. Smith

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith submits a Defect Information Report for vehicles equipped with MBE4000 engines which were previously included in campaign 10V-341. The remedy for vehicles equipped with affected MBE4000 engines has not been fully validated, and will not be available for release with the release of the remedy for vehicles equipped with affected MBE900 engines.

DTNA is in the final stages of validating the repair for vehicles equipped with affected MBE4000 engines, and expects to release this campaign by May 31, 2011. Affected MBE4000 engines were not offered in vehicles used in school bus applications.

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

A Daimler Company

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DAIMLER

Defect Information Report, (previously 10V-341) (Section 573.6)

March 1, 2011

- (c)(1) **Manufacturer:** Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219
- Brands:** Freightliner, Sterling, Western Star
- Model(s) affected:**
Freightliner: Cascadia, Century, Columbia, FLD, M2,
Sterling: 9500, Western Star: 4900
- Model Years affected:** 2006 through 2011
- Manufacture Dates:** March 20, 2006, through June 30, 2010
- Basis for determining population:** Vehicles equipped with specific MBE4000 EPA07 model engines with specific intake air grid heaters.
- Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:**
Detroit Diesel Corporation, C/o Daimler Trucks North America LLC
- (c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** To be determined
- (c)(4) **Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** Unknown
- (c)(5) **Description of the defect:** The intake air grid heater may short circuit and fail due to excessive internal temperatures.
- 49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety:** A short circuited grid heater could result in a vehicle fire and injury to vehicle occupants.
- (c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:**
Evobus Europe identified issues with grid heaters on bus models with engines similar to the MBE900 and MBE 4000 – October 2009
DD15 grid heater recall 09C-4 initiated – October 2009
DD13 grid heater recall 09C-5 initiated – October 2009
MBE900 and MBE 4000 investigation report submitted for review – November 2009
Determination that defect was related to motor vehicle safety – July 19, 2010
DIR submitted, recall # 10V-341 assigned by NHTSA – July 2010
Amended DIR submitted separating affected MBE4000 engines from population – March 2011
- (c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:** Not Applicable
- (c)(8) (i) **Remedial program:** An additional external relay will be connected in series with the battery supply to prevent battery connection to the grid heater when the vehicle is not running and when the grid heater control signal is absent. Repairs will be performed by Detroit Diesel Corporation (DDC) Authorized Repair 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 approximately May 31, 2011
Dealer notification will be completed approximately May 31, 2011
- (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:** 10C-5