

**DAIMLER**

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

June 20, 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 FL-609, Isolator Bolt**

Mr. Smith

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 53,847 Freightliner, Sterling, and Western Star vehicles manufactured January 14, 2008, through June 15, 2011, and equipped with an isolator bolt which may become loose or back out potentially contacting an unfused power cable.

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# 7006 3450 0003 7727 0759

A Daimler Company

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## Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

June 20, 2011

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

**Brands:** Freightliner, Sterling, Western Star

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

**Model(s) affected:** Freightliner: Cascadia, Century Class, Columbia, and Coronado  
Sterling: A-Line, and L-Line  
Western Star: Constellation

**Model Years affected:** Freightliner: 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012  
Sterling: 2008, and 2009  
Western Star: 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012

**Manufacture Dates:** January 14, 2008, through June 15, 2011

**Basis for determining population:** Vehicles built with DD15 or DD16 engines and equipped with rubber isolator 23-12286-002 mounted to a support bracket without Loctite® 272™ applied to the treads of the mounting bolt

**Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:** Not Applicable

**(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 53,847  
Country of residence for vehicle owners has not yet been determined. It is estimated that fewer than 50,000 potentially affected units are domiciled in the United States.

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

**(c)(5) Description of the defect:** On some vehicles equipped with DD15 or DD16 engines, the bolt attaching a rubber isolator to a support bracket may become loose and back out potentially contacting an un-fused starter cable and creating a short circuit.

A short circuit between an un-fused battery cable and chassis ground could result in a vehicle fire

**(c)(6) Chronology of principal events:** This issue was first reported to DTNA in October 2010. DTNA has received nine warranty claims related to this issue, one of those claims indicated minor thermal damage for shorting. On June 20, 2011, DTNA decided to conduct a safety campaign to remedy vehicles affected by this issue.

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

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**(c)(8) (i) Remedial program:** A new bolt and isolator will be installed using Loctite® 272™ or equivalent. 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 by August 19, 2011. Dealer and distributor notification will be completed by August 12, 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:** FL-609