

October 5, 2010



Fontaine Modification

9827 Mt. Holly Road
Charlotte, NC 28214
Phone: (704) 409-1613

RECALL NOTIFICATION BY FONTAINE MODIFICATION

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Fontaine Modification has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in some Freightliner M2 vehicles that have been **converted by Fontaine to dual steering. (RH & LH side steering wheels)**. Not all vehicles referenced below will be affected. Only those that are determined to have the defect should be reworked. The list below contains all truck VINs affected by this recall.

Description of Issue:

Due to potential heat related air brake hose failures on certain **2009 and 2010 Freightliner M2 chassis that have been converted to dual steering by Fontaine Modification**, we are requesting that you take any of your trucks with the VINs listed below to a Freightliner Dealer or authorized repair Center ASAP. **Only trucks that have a VIN on the enclosed list need to respond to this recall. If the VIN of your truck is not on the enclosed list, then no action is required on your part, as your vehicle is not part of the recall.**

The routing of the air hoses, within the Air Brake System, that control the brakes on the RH side of the truck may have been done improperly. Some trucks have been found with the air hoses routed very close to the turbo outlet which can cause the lines to blister, then melt and develop air leaks. A second failure mode involves routing of the hoses too close to the exhaust manifold on the top RH side of the engine. Melting and leaks of the air hoses can occur in this location as well.

Please **do not wait** to take affected vehicles to the dealer for inspection as the failure can happen unexpectedly.

Just before the malfunction occurs, the driver may feel like the brakes are overly responsive, with significant jerking of the truck as the brakes grab from the air leaks. In some cases however, there may be no apparent warning as the hoses melt and release the air. When the air hoses melt to a larger degree, the brakes will lock and the truck cannot move at all.

The air brake chambers will have to be 'caged' manually by a certified truck technician so the truck can be towed.

Never attempt to drive a truck with damaged or disabled brake components such as after the brake chambers are disabled for towing.

Effects on the passengers in the vehicle with melted / leaking air hoses may be similar to what would be experienced in a panic stop as the brakes lock up. Tire skid may also occur after the brakes lock up.

On any truck that fails due to the defects found in this document, there will be no charge to the customer. Fontaine Modification will pay the repair bills related to melted air brake hoses.

For the inspection and repair of trucks on the list that have **not experienced a failure**, Fontaine will pay for one hour of labor per truck for the inspection, and an additional ½ hour labor for repair.

If during the inspection process, a melted or blistered hose is found, then Fontaine Modification should be contacted immediately for replacement parts. The repair parts will include new hoses and heat protective thermal wrap. The kit name will be “Replacement RH Air Brake Lines for M2”. Fontaine will expedite parts to the repairing dealership within 3 days of receiving notification of a blistered or melted hose.

The enclosed **Inspection and repair procedure** should be completed by an authorized Freightliner dealer or Repair Center.

Records of the **VINS Inspected or repaired should be passed on to Fontaine Modification** by the dealer or repair Center within 1 business day of the truck being returned to the customer.

Please call Fontaine Modification at 704-409-1613 with questions.

STATEMENT TO OWNERS:

Should you have a complaint related to the ability of the dealer or manufacturer to remedy this defect at no cost to you, please submit a complaint to:

ADMINISTRATOR

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE

Washington, DC 20590

Or call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236 (TTY800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov