



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION

455 NORTH CITYFRONT PLAZA DRIVE, CHICAGO, IL 60611

TELEPHONE 312-836-2000

TRUCK GROUP

SAFETY RECALL 01515

December 2001

Dear International Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. International has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in the steering shaft assembly on some 4300 and 4400 models built from 9/04/01 through 9/19/01. If you are not the owner, we need your help finding the current owner; **please** read paragraph number 4 under "ACTIONS YOU SHOULD TAKE."

REASONS FOR THIS RECALL

DEFECT DESCRIPTION

An incorrect grade 5 flange-nut was installed instead of a grade 8 nut and a hardened flat washer on the steering shaft yoke pinch bolt where the yoke attaches to the steering gear. The grade 5 nut could have experienced thread stripping when it was tightened at the assembly plant. If the grade five nut is stripped, there would be a significantly reduced clamp load connecting the steering shaft to the steering gear.

RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

WARNING – IF YOUR VEHICLE HAS A SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED CLAMP LOAD AT THE CONNECTION OF THE STEERING SHAFT TO THE STEERING GEAR, THE STEERING COULD FAIL AT ANY TIME WITHOUT WARNING UNDER NORMAL DRIVING CONDITIONS. LOSS OF STEERING COULD CAUSE AN ACCIDENT, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN PROPERTY DAMAGE, PERSONAL INJURY, OR DEATH.

ACTIONS YOU SHOULD TAKE

1. **Our records show that you are the owner** of the vehicle identified on the enclosed card. **If you are not the owner**, please read paragraph number 4 on the next page.
2. **Please contact your local International dealer**, with your recall card in hand, to schedule an appointment to have your vehicle repaired. All vehicles must have the pinch bolt nut replaced with the correct nut and washer. This repair will be performed without charge to you and will require approximately half an hour.
3. **If the vehicle will not or cannot be corrected**, please mark on the enclosed card under "CHECK ONE", the box which best describes why the vehicle will not be repaired, and return the postage-prepaid card to us.
4. **In the event you do not own the vehicle** described on the card, please complete the card, fill in the new customer name and address if known, and return it to us. This information will allow us to update our records so we can contact the new owner and you will not be contacted again regarding this recall.

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE

If you take your vehicle to your International dealer on a mutually agreed upon service date, and the dealer does not remedy this condition without charge on that date or within five days, you can obtain assistance by following the procedure described in the Owner Assistance Guide section in your Owner's Manual, or by calling toll free 1-800-448-7825.

You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20590, or call the Administration's toll-free Auto Safety Hot-Line at 1-888-327-4236 if your International dealer fails to repair or is unable to remedy this condition without charge or within a reasonable time.

We urge your prompt attention to the correction of this safety defect and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION