



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION  
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TRUCK GROUP

## INTERIM ACTION SAFETY RECALL 02510

November 2002

Dear International Customer:

This interim action Safety Recall 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 hydraulic braking system on your vehicle. The vehicles involved have hydraulic ABS brakes and include 1552, 1652, 3400, 3800, 4700, 4900 and FE, IC, CE, RE buses. Vehicles included in this recall **had to be both**, built from 3/01/99 through 4/01/02 **and** delivered to the user between 3/01/99 through 4/01/02. Our records show that you are the owner of the vehicle on the enclosed card. If you are not the owner, we need your help finding the current owner. **Please** read paragraph number 7 under **"ACTIONS YOU SHOULD TAKE."**

### **REASONS FOR THIS RECALL**

#### **RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY**

**WARNING – IF YOUR VEHICLE EXPERIENCES A FALSE WHEEL SPEED SIGNAL AND IF THE ECU MISINTERPRETS THE SIGNAL, YOU COULD EXPERIENCE AN UNEXPECTED EXTENDED STOPPING DISTANCE WHICH COULD CAUSE A VEHICULAR ACCIDENT, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN PROPERTY DAMAGE, PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.**

#### **DEFECT DESCRIPTION**

The anti-lock brake system (ABS) controller or ABS electronic control unit (ECU) on your vehicle can misinterpret false wheel speed signals. If this occurs, the ECU may improperly activate the ABS, instead of deactivating the ABS in response to a false signal. This may result in the driver experiencing a hard pedal feel and a decrease in deceleration at the end of the stop, resulting in extended stopping distance. During the described conditions, the ABS warning indicator light may not come on to warn the driver of a system malfunction.

You will receive a Safety Recall notice to replace your ABS ECU in the middle of 2003; however, until the newly designed supplier ABS ECU is available, this interim action recall will address **"ACTIONS YOU SHOULD TAKE"** to reduce your risk of having an unexpected ABS event.

## **ACTIONS YOU SHOULD TAKE**

1. Most vehicles in this recall will only need to have the ABS wheel speed sensors pushed in during the waiting period for the future recall that will replace the ABS ECU. Therefore, for customer convenience, we have included a simple 10-minute procedure that customers can and should perform. Please take a few minutes and perform the attached service procedure. The procedure is written so the customer can quickly and easily complete the steps. You should contact your local International dealer if you have a problem or are unable to perform the recommended procedure.
2. **WARNING: DO NOT DISCONNECT YOUR ABS SYSTEM.** Federal Regulations require the ABS system to remain connected.
3. **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 7.
4. **Recall cards: If you perform the service procedure provided in this letter, check box two on the card for "Vehicle Correction Completed" and return the postage pre-paid card to us.** If you have to take your vehicle to an International dealer for this recall, the card does not have to be completed or returned. If you have an address change, please provide the new address information to your dealer.
5. **If you choose to have the dealer perform this service**, please contact your local International dealer with your recall card in hand, to schedule an appointment to have your vehicle repaired. **All four ABS wheel speed sensors must be pushed in on all vehicles in this recall.** This repair will be performed without charge to you and will take approximately half an hour if no other problems are detected. Have your dealer verify and correct your address if necessary. If your local International dealer performs the repair, you **DO NOT** have to mail in the campaign card.
6. **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.
7. **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.

## **PROCEDURE FOR PUSHING IN THE ABS WHEEL SPEED SENSORS**

**Description:** This is a simple procedure that most customers can perform themselves. You do not have to be a mechanic to perform this procedure and you do not need any special tools. The sensors are attached to the end of the sensor wires that are routed along the axles to the backside of the wheel ends. The sensors are hand inserted into the back of the wheel end. When the sensors are pushed in as far as possible such that they directly contact the tone ring, the air gap between the sensor and the tone ring on the rotor will be closed. You do not need to understand how the system works to complete this procedure.

***Before performing the service, please read and understand the following instructions completely.***

**WARNING:** To prevent serious eye injury, always wear appropriate eye protection when you perform vehicle maintenance or service.

1. **WARNING:** Block the wheels to prevent the vehicle from moving. If a vehicle moves unexpectedly or suddenly, the result could be serious personal injury or death.
2. Shut off the engine, apply the parking brake and put the transmission in neutral.
3. The four sensors can easily be located by following the sensor wires on the axles to the backside of the wheel ends. The sensor wires are the only wires that will go from the axle to the backside of the wheel end. Be careful not to damage the sensor wires. You will find the four sensors on the inner side of each wheel end, two on the front axle and two on the rear axle. Push in all four wheel speed sensors by hand (with your thumb) until they contact the tone ring on the rotor. Sensors fit tightly in the holes and may only move a small amount (0.002 inches), but you should be able to feel them move. It may take a lot of force to push in the sensors, but it should not take any more force than what you can apply by hand. Do not strike or pound on the sensor with any type of tool.
4. Test drive the vehicle at various speeds up to at least 30 MPH and make several brake applications to verify that the ABS warning light stays off and that the brakes function properly. Brake pedal feel should be normal, without any pulsing, fading, or hard apply when making normal brake applications on dry pavement. If the ABS light stays off and the brakes are functioning normally, the interim action is complete. If the ABS light was on before the sensors were pushed in, it may go off during the test drive because the sensor push in corrected the condition. However, if the ABS light is on after you have pushed in the sensors and test driven the vehicle, you must contact your local International dealer for an appointment to properly diagnose and correct the condition. The above procedure for sensors should be performed at every maintenance interval on trucks and buses operated in road salt states (per Table 1 in step 5) until the ECU is available. On units operated in non salt belt states the above procedure for sensors is only required once. For an on-line service procedure with illustrations you can go to: <http://www.internationaldelivers.com>, and select "Customer Support".

- 5. Table 1:** The above procedure for sensors should be performed at every maintenance interval on trucks and buses operated in road salt states that are designated high corrosion (per Table 1) until the ECU is available. On units operated in non-salt belt states, the push in procedure for sensors is only required once.

<b>Vehicle Operated In</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b><i>Non-salt belt, Perform procedure once</i></b>	<b><i>AL, AR, AZ, FL, GA, HI, LA, NC, OK, OR, SC, TN TX, UT, WA</i></b>
<b><i>Salt belt: high corrosion Perform at every Maintenance interval</i></b>	<b><i>All other states and All of Canada</i></b>

**\* Thank you for your patience and time regarding this important matter.**

## **IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE**

For questions regarding this recall, please call 1-800-44-TRUCK.

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**