



DAF Trucks Limited

Haddenham Business Park
Pegasus Way
Haddenham
HP17 8LJ
Tel: 01844 261111
Fax: 01844 217111
www.daftrucks.com
A **PACCAR** COMPANY

Kevin Mcloughlin
Senior Coroner West Yorkshire, East
County Hall
Wakefield
WF1 2QW

Date: 04/11/2019

Your Reference: KM/ST/16216

DAF Trucks Ltd. Reference: 0G034509/CF370FAD/Fatal/ [REDACTED]

Vehicle: XLRADM4100G034509 CF 370 FAD, LN64FYO

Copy:

[REDACTED] (After Sales Director, DAF Trucks Ltd.)

[REDACTED] (DAF Aid Manager, DAF Trucks Ltd.)

[REDACTED] (DAF Liability Engineering, DAF N.V.)

[REDACTED] (Senior Coroner West Yorkshire) coronersoffice.east@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Dear Sir

I am writing to you in response to the report (KM/ST/16216) issued to DAF Trucks Ltd on 17/09/19, regarding the prevention of future deaths, with respect to the fatal incident involving vehicle 0G034509 CF 370 FAD operated by Whitelock Plant Ltd of Skipton.

Please be advised that DAF Trucks only has records regarding this vehicle, from its original owner MV Commercials. I have investigated the concerns raised and offer the enclosed responses to the specific concerns raised in the document KM/ST/16216

Should you require any further assistance from DAF Trucks Ltd. regarding the issues raised and the subsequent investigation, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will assign more resource to ensuring we provide further assistance.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Technical Manager
DAF Trucks Ltd.

Below noted responses and Actions regarding the Section 5 Coroner's Concerns. DAF Trucks Ltd. answers are set against numbered order of concerns from the copy Regulation 28 Report, of the coroner to prevent future deaths

Matters of Concern:

1) Vehicle was not equipped with warning Triangles

- a. DAF Trucks Ltd issues to all new vehicles sold via the sales network a PDI safety kit. This Bagged kit (DAF part number 9507301) includes x2 Hazard Warning Triangles x3 Tachograph paper roll, x1 Hi- Viz vest and a pair of safety working gloves. A photo of this kit is shown in Appendix 1.

Action: A safety kit with x2 warning triangles was issued in this vehicle at point of delivery to the original owner. It is understood that the publication "The Highway Code" and rule 274 implies that the driver and or operator will make available in their vehicle a warning triangle in case of emergency breakdown. Original DAF replacement safety kits are available to purchase under DAF part number 9507301 if required. No further action deemed necessary from DAF Trucks Ltd.

2) The HGV Driver has not been trained / the authorities were not notified.

- a. DAF Trucks Ltd. provides to the DAF Sales Network, a driver training service which is offered to the original sales customer during the sales process. Since the introduction of Euro 4 in 2006 driver training has become a feature of sales transactions due to the complexity of modern vehicles. All DAF dealers, now have dedicated driver trainers available to teach the functions and features of the new vehicle. For retail customers, our DAF UK Sales Dealers offer discounted driver training incentives with a redeemable voucher scheme, this is to encourage all new vehicle owners and drivers to take advantage of the driver training at favourable costs to ensure all current vehicle features and OE vehicle operation are understood.

Actions: Whilst DAF Trucks provides driver training at all DAF sales dealerships, this covers only the safe operation and function of the DAF vehicle. It is industry practice that the driver is obligated by Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC), to be fully trained on safe operation of a LGV used on the UK highway and that his/her employer would ensure that safe systems of work are employed per industry and vehicle body type utilised, for vehicles in that specific industry sector. We deem no action for DAF on this point.

- b. DAF Trucks offers a free to call break down service called DAF Aid. This is an emergency break down service, whereby a DAF customer, only needs to have a trading account, with any DAF UK dealer in-order to use the service. DAF Aid is administered by the RAC Control Centre, Bescot, West Midlands, Walsall. Had this vehicle been attended by the DAF Aid service, then the attending technician would have been a trained individual, whereby safety is a paramount feature of the road side assistance service provided. Having checked the DAF Aid records there was no call to the DAF Aid service from this operator for this vehicle on the day of the incident. The operator therefore utilised an alternative provider for the break down service regarding this incident.

Actions: Whilst DAF Trucks break down service "DAF Aid" was not used in this incident, we have deemed that our policy on notifying the Highways Agency from our DAF Aid Control

centre in Bescot, for vehicles stranded in “live lanes”, should be updated. We will therefore proactively act upon the findings of the coroner’s report and pre-empt any expectation for future changes in industry practice. The DAF Aid service will endeavour to ensure all possible means of marking out a vehicle by the authorities, is actioned during the first calls of a breakdown reported to DAF Aid. We expect to complete our review and implementation of this policy by the end of 2019

3) Condition of the rear lights

- a. DAF Trucks supplies vehicles such as OG034509 FAD CF 370, from factory as a “Chassis Cab” only vehicle. The vehicle therefore is incomplete (No Body) at point of delivery, to the customers chosen Body Builder, in this case a company called “Thompsons of Blackburn”, at which point the “tipper” or “skip body” and its associated equipment, including the rear light arrangement, would have been permanently mounted to the new body and commissioned by Thompsons of Blackburn. The end choice of lamp arrangement and the conspicuousness of the rear lamps in the final phases of build for this vehicle, would have therefore been controlled by the completion of the build in accordance with Thompsons of Blackburn’s chosen Legislative Approval methods, before the vehicle was moved to the PDI dealer (Lancashire DAF in this case) prior to delivery to the original customer MV Commercials, Brownsburn Ind. Est, Airdrie.

All DAF vehicles are supplied with rear light assemblies secured to transport bars and with regards to the case of OG034509 the vehicle was supplied with standard incandescent rear lamp cluster part number 1875581 (Right) and 1875580 (Left). These OE rear lamp clusters comply with Regulation 48 of UNECE-R48 light signalling devices. These OE rear lamps work in conjunction with an electronic safety system of “bulb monitoring”. This bulb monitoring feature, advises the driver by an in cab display if any bulb of the vehicle lighting system fails during operation.

It is known that this vehicle was subsequently fitted with alternative LED rear lamps on the 14-06-2017. As such these alternative rear lamps, do not have incandescent bulbs and therefore the OE feature of “Bulb Monitoring” is not compatible or operational for such lamps.

Action: Because this vehicle was completed for approval by another organisation and the choice and conspicuity of the rear lamps was not controlled by DAF, we deem no action for DAF on this point.

DAF Trucks provided an OE vehicle lighting system that included an in-cab driver warning Bulb Monitoring function. The vehicle lighting was subsequently altered and the original OE lamps were replaced for an alternative LED lamp. The feature therefore of notifying the driver of defective lights was removed as a vehicle feature. We therefore deem no action for DAF.

Appendix 1

DAF Trucks Ltd issues to all new vehicles including XLRADM4100G034509 a PDI safety kit. This Bagged kit (DAF part number 9507301) includes x2 Hazard Warning Triangles x3 Tachograph paper roll, x1 Hi- Viz vest and a pair of safety working gloves. A photo of this kit is shown below

