

Brussels, 14 October 2004

Subject : CAN bus connection

Dear,

The European commercial vehicle manufacturers would like to draw to your attention and increasingly risky phenomena.

As you know, the electronic system in vans and trucks are increasing day by day and now govern most of the functionalities. The possibility to get operating data information from the vehicle electronics has been supported by the main European truck manufacturers and they have agreed a common standard (FMS-Standard*) for the communication between the truck electronics and on-board computers used to retrieve these data. In order to supply this information, each manufacturer makes available an interface, which is the only acceptable way to connect external devices to the vehicle electronics.

Direct connection to the CAN bus system for the purpose of retrieving operating data or for other purposes is not allowed as it could be extremely dangerous since it can interfere with the correct functionality of the truck systems, for example engine or brakes.

For this reason, European truck manufacturers declare that in the case of direct connection with the CAN bus, they reserve the right to withdraw any warranty on the product or to consider it null and avoid. At the same time the truck manufacturer shall not be subject to product liability arising from any direct CAN bus connection made by a third party.

We would ask therefore that your institute does not approve any third party external electronic device that connects directly to the internal bus system.

Yours sincerely,

Ivan Hodac
Secretary General

* Fleet Management System