



# Weatherford<sup>®</sup>

## QHSSE ADVISORY

**Advisory Number:** 2-3-US-GL-GL-00041

**CPAR Number:** [246975](#)

**Release Date:** 12/15/2010

### Dodge 4X4 Truck Fire

#### **Incident Description:**

A 2008 Dodge 2500 4X4 pickup truck caught on fire while driving the vehicle. There were no injuries, and the driver was able to stop the fire with the vehicle's fire extinguisher.



The Dodge front drive shaft turns all the time. At the transfer case end the drive shaft is made up of two u-joints and the Cardan Joint.

#### **Cause:**

A Dodge Truck engineer was sent to investigate the failure. He determined the front drive shaft failed due to lack of lubrication. The resulting fire is still under investigation by Dodge.

#### **Contributing Factors:**

- In most configurations, the u-joints are sealed and do not require lubrication. This might cause confusion about the lubrication of the Cardan Joint.
- The Cardan Joint in between the u-joints must be lubricated. The lubrication point requires a special grease fitting and is hard to see.

#### **Corrective Actions:**

- All Dodge 4X4 vehicles should be inspected by a competent mechanic to determine the current condition as soon as possible.
- Ensure the lubrication service provider knows how, and is capable of, lubricating this joint during routine maintenance.
- Follow the owner's manual for preventative maintenance requirements.
- Carry this advisory in the Dodge vehicles to notify lubrication providers of where the lube point is.