

RECEIVED
2009 JANUARY 13
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

DAIMLER

09V-011
(2 pages)

Daimler Trucks North America
Nasser Zamani
Senior Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

January 8, 2009

Dan Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report FL-544, VIM Corrosion

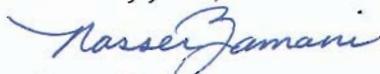
Mr. Smith

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 2,426 Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX vehicles manufactured April 1, 2002 through August 30, 2005 with a defect in the Bussmann Vehicle Interface Module.

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail# 7006 3450 0003 8408 4837

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland OR 97217-7699
503-745-6910 Phone
503-745-5544 Fax
Nasser.Zamani@Daimler.com

DAIMLER

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

January 8, 2008

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219

Brands: Thomas Built Buses

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: Saf-T-Liner HDX School and non school buses

Model Years affected: 2003 through 2006

Manufacture Dates: April 1, 2002 through August 30, 2005

Basis for determining population: All Saf-T-Liner HDX models from start of production until VIM was relocated inside the Transmission Control Module cover in September 2005.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Bussmann Automotive Technologies
7300 West Wilson Avenue
Chicago, IL 60656

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 2,426

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: 100%

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Automatic Transmission Vehicle Interface Module (VIM) located between the frame rails near the front axle and outside the Transmission Control Module cover may become corroded due to water and road spray intrusion. VIM corrosion may cause the starter motor to engage unexpectedly or the backup lights to operate intermittently.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Unexpected starter engagement or intermittent backup light operation may lead to a vehicle crash or personal injury.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: April 2002, Bussmann VIM introduced in production. August 2005, VIM relocated inside transmission control module cover.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: Not Applicable

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: Vehicle Interface Module will be inspected and replaced as required and relocated inside the Transmission Control Module cover. Repairs will be performed by Thomas Built Buses dealerships and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by Thomas Built Buses to do their own warranty repairs

Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(ii) Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date: Customer notification will be by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately March 6, 2009
Dealer notification will be completed approximately March 6, 2009

(c)(9) Information for tire recalls: Not Applicable

(c)(10) Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number: FL-544