



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE09-047

Date Opened: 09/30/2009

Date Closed: 01/04/2010

Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka

Subject: Throttle Sticks On Floor Plate

Manufacturer: Freightliner LLC

Products: 2006-2010 Thomas Buses EF

Population: 5,080

Problem Description: Upon "full" pedal application, the bottom edge of the accelerator pedal may become wedged on the metal floor covering and the vehicle may continue to accelerate.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	5	5	5
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other:	0	0	0

Description of Other:

Action: This investigation has been closed. Daimler (Thomas Built's Parent Company) has filed a Safety Recall (09V-462).

Engineer: Sonny Murianka

Date: 01/04/2010

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 01/04/2010

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 01/04/2010

Summary:

This investigation was opened after a fleet supervisor submitted a VOQ on a Model Year 2008 Thomas Built "EF" school bus and reported that "the accelerator pedal will stick and won't release." This problem occurred on one of the fleet buses and the driver had to free the pedal by hand. ODI conducted a field visit and confirmed by inspection that pushing at the pedal's base (position nearest the driver) would sometimes allow it to stick at the metal scuff plate (on the floor) without releasing.

A second fleet was contacted and they were able to duplicate the problem.

ODI conveyed its field findings to Daimler in late November 2009 and they filed a Safety Recall (09V-462) on December 1, 2009 outlining their remedy program. Daimler will raise the mounting position of the accelerator pedal 0.75 inches to resolve the clearance issue. Daimler is recalling the subject vehicles plus Model Year 2011.

The action taken by Daimler (Thomas Built) resolves this investigation. Accordingly, this investigation is closed.