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2005 SEP 26 P 2:02



OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

A Subsidiary of **FREIGHTLINER**
LLC

September 6, 2005

Recall 05V-137

Dear Thomas Bus Owner,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Based on information provided by Dana Corporation, Heavy Vehicle Technologies and Systems Group, Thomas Built Buses, Inc. has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in the vehicle identified on the enclosed postcard (Form PSD 304).

This recall involves certain Thomas Built MVP-EF, ER Transit, MVP-ER, HD, and HDX buses manufactured from September 2000 through March 2004 with certain Dana front axles. The axle tie rod may crack and separate causing a vehicle crash without prior warning.

You should immediately contact your Thomas Built Buses dealer for an appointment to have your vehicle modified. Thomas Built Buses will remedy this defect without charge. It will take approximately 2.1 hours per unit to replace the tie rod and shock plate, and 1.3 hours to replace the tie rod only. To arrange for repairs, contact your local Thomas Built Buses dealer. After the repair is made, please complete each postage paid card separately and return it to Thomas Built Buses to verify completion.

In addition to being used to verify repair completion, the postcard must be completed and returned if the vehicle does not need repair, if you no longer own the vehicle, or the vehicle identified on the postcard has been exported, stolen, or destroyed/totaled. Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving the recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within 10 days.

If the defect is not remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, which is not longer than 60 days after you tender the vehicle for repair, please contact the Customer Support Office at (336)-889-4871, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern standard time Monday through Friday, e-mail address Tracy.Sauerbrey@Thomasbus.com. You may also submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 7th Street S. W., Washington, DC 20590, or phone 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153) or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>. If your vehicle is involved in the Canadian portion, you may notify the Manager, Recall and Public Compliance, Road and Motor Vehicle Traffic Safety Branch, Transport Canada, Ottawa, Ontario or phone (613)-993-9851.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracy Sauerbrey".

Tracy Sauerbrey
Customer Support Division

/ts

Enclosures

Postcard