



A DaimlerChrysler Company

07V-459
(3 pages)

Nasser Zamani
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

RECEIVED
2007 SEPTEMBER 21 9:00A
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

Freightliner LLC
4747 N. Channel Ave
Portland, OR 97217-7699
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503-745-5544 Fax
NasserZamani@Freightliner.com

September 12, 2007

Dan Smith
Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Defect Information Report FL-510,
Thomas Built Buses Roof Mounted Emergency Exit Hatch Markings**

Mr. Smith:

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Freightliner LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 3,581 Thomas Built Buses manufactured March 2006 through August 2007 with a Non-Compliance in the roof mounted emergency exit hatch markings.

Attached is Freightliner's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nasser Zamani".

Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail# 7002 3150 0004 1405 1089

Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

September 12, 2007

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Freightliner 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 C2

Model Years affected: 2006 through 2008

Manufacture Dates: 03/08/2006 through 08/10/2007

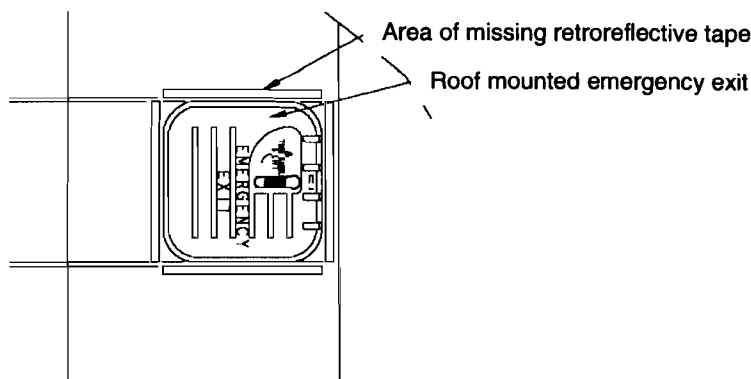
Basis for determining population: All buses built between 03/08/2006 and 08/10/2007 with one or more "Pro Lo Roof Hatch" option number D107307001, D107307002, or D107307003

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: Not applicable

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: 3,581

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

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Retroreflective tape was not installed around the perimeter of the roof mounted emergency exit hatch as required by FMVSS 217



49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Improperly identified emergency exits may hinder evacuation efforts.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: On August 15, 2007 Thomas Built Buses was notified by a customer that retroreflective tape was missing from roof mounted emergency exits on some of their buses. "Pro Lo Roof Hatch" emergency exits are not supplied with retroreflective tape preinstalled. When "Pro Lo Roof Hatch" emergency exits are used, retroreflective tape must be applied to the bus body.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: A review of shop practices indicates that retroreflective tape was not being installed as specified when "Pro Lo Roof Hatch" emergency exits are used.

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: Retroreflective tape will be installed as required by FMVSS 217. 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.

(ii) Estimated dealer notification date: November 9, 2007

Estimated owner notification date: November 9, 2007

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

(c)(9) Information for tire recalls: not applicable

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

(c)(11) Copy of proposed owner notification letter: A draft will be sent for ODI review when available.

(c) (11) Manufacturer's campaign number: FL-510