



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

November 20, 2008

MR. NASSER ZAMANI
MANAGER, COMPLIANCE AND
REGULATORY AFFAIRS
DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE
PORTLAND OR 97217-3849

NVS-215kjs
08V-602

SUBJECT: AIR MANAGEMENT UNIT (AMU) PRESSURE SWITCH

DEAR MR. ZAMANI:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Trucks North America's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a defect in the vehicles listed below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

FCCC/B2/2005-2009

FCCC/S2/2005-2009

THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER C2/2005-2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-602 **Mfg's Report Date:** November 17, 2008

Components: EXTERIOR LIGHTING: BRAKE LIGHTS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 16,000

Summary:

DAIMLER TRUCKS IS RECALLING 16,000 MY 2005 THROUGH 2009 FCCC AND THOMAS BUILT SCHOOL AND TRANSIT BUSES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN MARCH 2005 AND MAY 2008 EQUIPPED WITH AN AIR MANAGEMENT UNIT (AMU) AIR PRESSURE SWITCH A, PART NO. A12-19776-#. THE CONTACTS IN THE PRESSURE SWITCH FOR THE LOW CURRENT BRAKE LAMP SIGNAL TO THE CHASSIS ECU MAY BECOME CONTAMINATED BY THE PRESSURE OF SILICONE USED DURING ASSEMBLY AT THE AMU SUPPLIER. OVER TIME,

INSULATING DEPOSITS MAY BUILD UP ON THE CONTACTS AND AFFECT THE OPERATION OF THE BRAKE LAMP SIGNAL TO THE CHASSIS ECU.

Consequence:

THE INSULATING DEPOSITS BUILT UP OVER TIME MAY PREVENT THE BRAKE LAMPS FROM OPERATING. INOPERATIVE BRAKE LAMPS WOULD NOT PROVIDE A SIGNAL THAT THE BRAKES ARE APPLIED TO OTHER TRAFFIC AND A CRASH MAY OCCUR.

Remedy:

DAIMLER TRUCKS WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE AMU PRESSURE SWITCH FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 16, 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DAIMLER TRUCKS AT 1-800-547-0712 OR THOMAS BUILT BUSES AT 1-336-889-4871.

Notes:

DAIMLER TRUCKS RECALL NO. FL-538. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Person". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement