

# DAIMLER



November 18, 2008

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

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

**08V-622**  
**(3 pages)**

## **Re: Defect Information Report FL-539, TBB Dual Power Switch**

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 17,050 Thomas Built Buses ER, MVP-ER HDX, and MVP-EF school and non-school buses equipped with solid state circuit protection devices (dual power switch), and manufactured February 1, 2002 through October 17, 2008 with a defect in operation of the dual power switch.

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# 7003 2260 0001 3403 7064

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

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## Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

November 18, 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:** ER, MVP-ER, HDX, and MVP-EF School and Non-School Buses

**Model Years affected:** 2003 through 2009

**Manufacture Dates:** 02/01/2002 through 10/17/2008

**Basis for determining population:** All ER, MVP-ER, HDX, and MVP-EF school and non-school buses manufactured 02/01/2002 through 10/17/2008 and equipped with a dual power switch.

**Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:**

Orvitek Inc.  
2900 John Street, Unit 3  
Markham, Ontario L3R 5J7 Canada  
Phone: (905) 940-1793      Used 02/01/02 through 09/03/03

InPower LLC  
3555 Africa Road  
Galena, OH 43021  
Phone: 740-548-0965      Used 09/04/03 through 01/23/06

Sure Power Industries  
10955 SW Avery Street – Suite A  
Tualatin, OR 97062  
Contact: Brian Lawrence  
Phone: (503) 612-7536      Used 01/24/06 through 10/17/08

**(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 17,050

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

**(c)(5) Description of the defect:** Solid state circuit breakers may trip unnecessarily potentially resulting in a loss of power to the bus chassis and body electrical circuits causing an unexpected loss of engine power and exterior lighting.

**49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety:** Unexpected loss of engine power and exterior lighting could result in a vehicle crash.

**(c)(6) Chronology of principal events:** Orvitek dual power switch released for production 02/01/2002. InPower switch replaced Orvitek switch in production 09/04/2003. SurePower switch replaced InPower switch in production 01/24/2006. Thomas Bus began receiving complaints of dual power switches tripping unnecessarily in December 2002.

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

**(c)(8) (i) Remedial program:** Solid state dual power switch will be replaced with mechanical circuit protection (Mega Fuse). 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 Thomas Built Buses records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately February 14, 2009

Dealer notification will be completed approximately February 14, 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-539