

DAIMLER

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

October 28, 2009

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 – Supplemental Report No. 6
09V-011, FL-544, Transmission Vehicle Interface Module**

Mr. Smith,

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith submits supplemental defect information and copies of documents distributed to dealers and purchasers.

**(c) (8)(ii) Communications sent to dealers: posted October 12, 2009
Communications sent to owners: mailed October 19, 2009**

(c) (10) Copies of Communications sent to owners and dealers are attached.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail#70023150000414054134

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
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Portland OR 97217-7699
503-745-6910 Phone
503-745-5544 Fax
Nasser.Zamani@Daimler.com



Product Recall

To: ALL DEALERS
From: TRACY SAUERBREY – WARRANTY/RECALL DEPARTMENT
Subject: RECALL 09V-011 – Transmission Vehicle Interface Module Replacement
Date: October 27, 2009

Please note: In order for this recall to auto-process in the warranty system please enter your part numbers in the following format: 25-FL544-000 and 25-FL544-001 when filing claims.

Tracy



Product Recall

To: ALL DEALERS

From: TRACY SAUERBREY – WARRANTY/RECALL DEPARTMENT

Subject: RECALL 09V-011 – Transmission Vehicle Interface Module Replacement

Date: October 16, 2009

Enclosed are copies of the customer notification letter and the repair procedures for Recall 09V-011. This recall involves certain HDX school buses manufactured between April 1, 2002 and August 30, 2005. The defect involves the automatic transmission vehicle interface module (VIM). The VIM located between the frame rails near the front axle and outside the transmission control module cover may become corroded due to water and road spray intrusion.

This is a universal notification sent to all dealers. You may or may not have customers in your area affected by this recall. If owners in your area are subject to this recall, we have enclosed a printout listing those customers' names and addresses. If there is not a printout enclosed according to our records there are no units in your area involved. **If you have a printout and any of the units on it are still in your possession it is your responsibility to ensure the recall is performed before the unit is delivered to the customer.**

The remedy will consist of replacing the module and relocating inside the transmission control module cover. The labor allowance is .5 hour (SRT 90-91). Please order BOTH kits from the PDC – 25-FL544-000 and 25-FL544-001.

Thomas Built Buses has elected to notify all customers directly. Your customers will be contacting you to schedule an appointment for repairs. Reimbursement for labor, (if requested) may be obtained by filing a warranty claim.

If you know of any customers who own or operate a Thomas bus in this recall, whose name and address is NOT listed or is INCORRECTLY listed on the enclosed printout, please promptly notify Thomas Built Buses of that additional information in writing. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Tracy

Enclosures: Customer Letter Repair Procedure Printout (if applicable) Labels



October 19, 2009

Recall 09V-011

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Thomas Built Buses, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on certain Saf-T-Liner HDX model school and non school buses manufactured between April 1, 2002 and August 30, 2005. These units are identified on the enclosed postcard (Form PSD 304).

The defect involves the automatic transmission vehicle interface module (VIM). The VIM located between the frame rails near the front axle and outside the transmission control module cover may become corroded due to water and road spray intrusion. VIM corrosion may cause the starter motor to engage unexpectedly or the backup lights to operate intermittently. Unexpected starter engagement or intermittent backup light operation may lead to a vehicle crash or personal injury.

You should immediately contact your Thomas Built Buses dealer for an appointment to have your vehicle modified. Thomas will remedy this defect without charge. The remedy will consist of inspecting the module and replacing as required and relocating inside the transmission control module cover. 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 you have had your vehicle repaired due to this defect prior to receipt of this notice and you have incurred any costs, you may be eligible for reimbursement. For further information, please contact the Customer Support office at (336) 889-4871, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern standard time Monday through Friday. To find a dealer in your area please go to www.thomasbus.com.

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, also please contact the Customer Support Office at (336)889-4871. You may also submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20590, or phone the Vehicle Safety Hotline at 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,

Tracy Sauerbrey
Warranty/Recall Department

Enclosure



RECALL #09V-011

REPAIR PROCEDURE

MODEL: HDX, 3000 SERIES TRANSMISSION
SUBJECT: TRANSMISSION VEHICLE INTERFACE MODULE (VIM) REPLACEMENT
DATE: OCTOBER 7, 2009
PAGE: 1 OF 3

IMPORTANT: READ ENTIRE PROCEDURE BEFORE BEGINNING.

Verify that the unit is an HDX model. This can be determined by the 4th digits in the VIN: Sample 1T7Y. The "Y" identifies that the unit is an HDX model.

1. Set parking brake.
2. Disconnect battery cable; chock rear wheels.
3. Over the Front Axle inside the Frame area, remove the TCU Cover by removing the two (2) lower 1/4 fasteners, (Hex Bolt, Flatwasher, Lockwasher, and Hex Nut). **Retain these fasteners for reuse.** Swing upward to access inside. **Figure 1**

NOTE: The Styrofoam material for the harness pass-thru may need to be cut away.

⚠ CAUTION: Do not cut into the Transmission Harness.

4. Remove the old VIM by loosening the four (4) fasteners (Machine Screw, Cap Screw, Flatwasher #8, and Lock Nut. (Discard the Lock Nut, **only**). Install the new VIM, #TBB 61202076 using the previously removed fasteners and new Locknut, #TBB 61370038.

NOTE: If your unit does not have the TCM Cover, refer to PSB Index 33, Bulletin 8R which is not warrantable. Also, if the Cover is not installed as manufacturing and/or the PSB provides, the warranty on the TCU and VIM electrical will be denied on future repairs. See Figures 2 & 3 on page 3 for early configurations.

5. Inspect all connectors prior to installing new VIM. Replace with two (2) new 10-Amp Fuses, #23-12537-010 and four (4) Relays, #TBB 61201794 supplied. (Optional Retarder and Exhaust Brake Relays may not be present.) Decal, #TBB 61202137 is also provided to install on the VIM Cover.
6. Verify vehicle operation. Replace the TCM Cover that was removed Step #3, using existing fasteners.
7. Fill the harness pass-thru with Foam Sealant, #TBB 68000901, or equivalent.

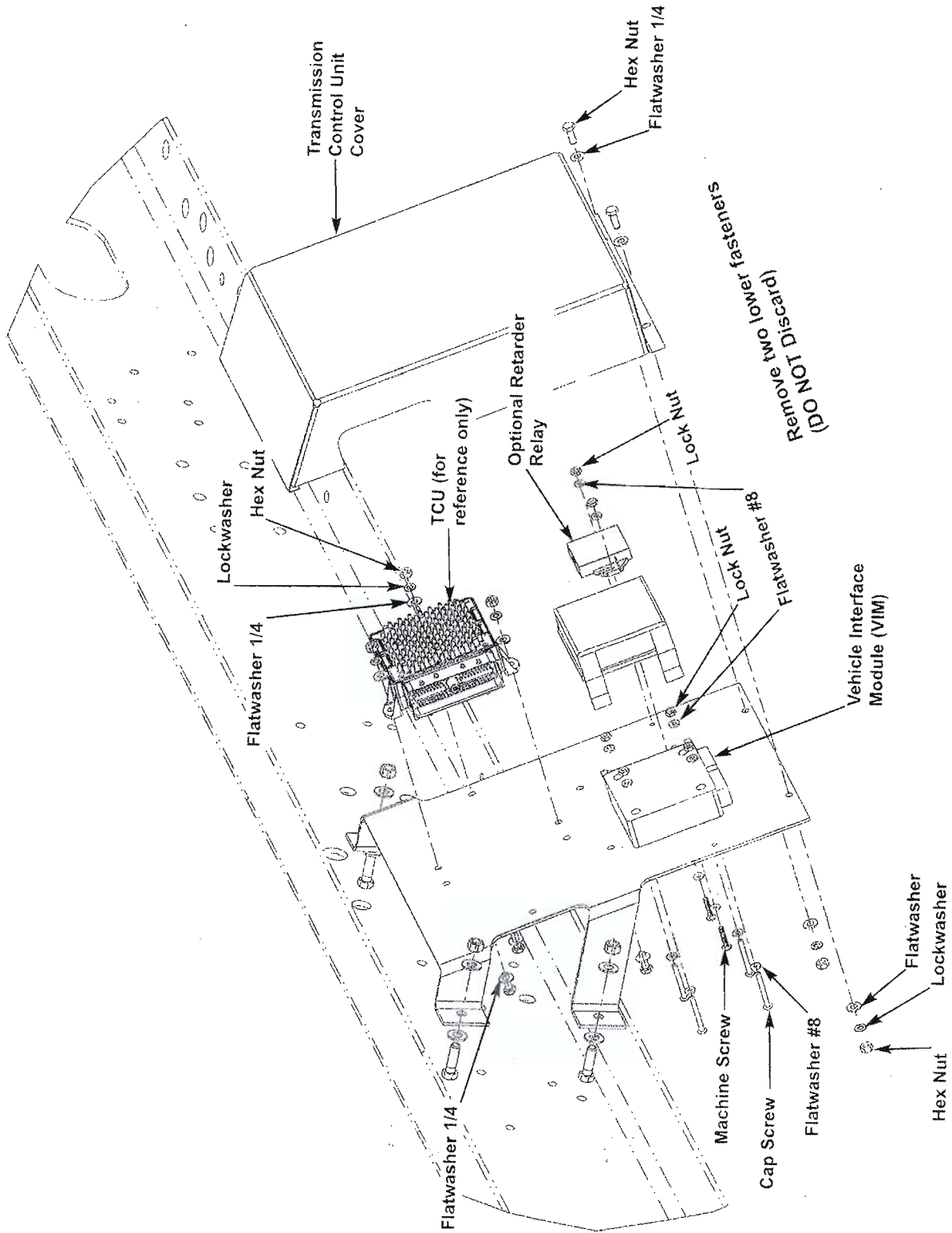


Figure 1

NOTE: Part #TBB 68000939, Foam Sealant Applicator Gun and #TBB 68000902, Foam Sealant Applicator Gun Cleaner are available for applying the Foam Sealant.

MATERIALS REQUIRED: KIT FOR RECALL #09V-011, TRANSMISSION VIM REPLACEMENT (MUST ORDER BOTH KITS.)

<u>PART NUMBER</u>	<u>QTY.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
25-FL544-000	1	KIT, RECALL #09V-011, TRANSMISSION VIM REPLACEMENT
<i>CONSISTING OF:</i>		
TBB 61370038	4	LOCK NUT
TBB 61202076	1	TRANSMISSION VIM 3000 SERIES
TBB 68000901	A/R	Foam Sealant (NOT IN KIT - Order separately)
25-FL544-001	1	Kit #2, Recall #09V-011, Transmission VIM Replacement
<i>CONSISTING OF:</i>		
TBB 61201794	4	RELAY (ORDER TWO ADDITIONAL FOR OPTIONAL RETARDER / EXHAUST BRAKE)
23-12537-010	2	FUSES, 10-AMP
TBB 61202137	1	DECAL

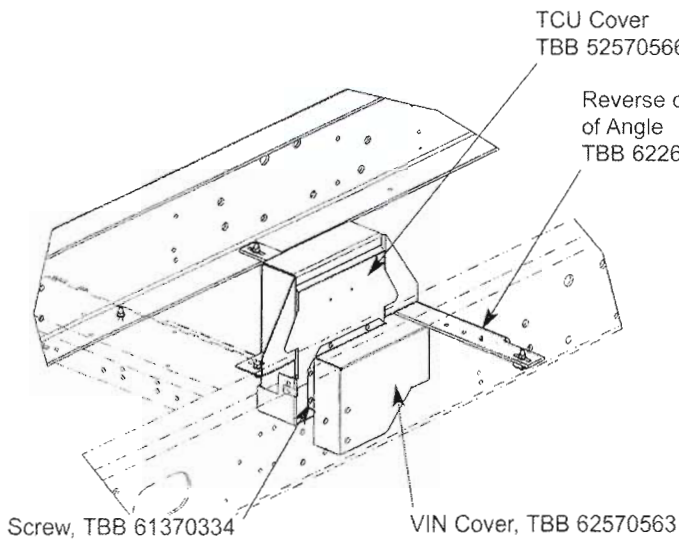


Figure 2 - Original TCU mounting until 5/21/03

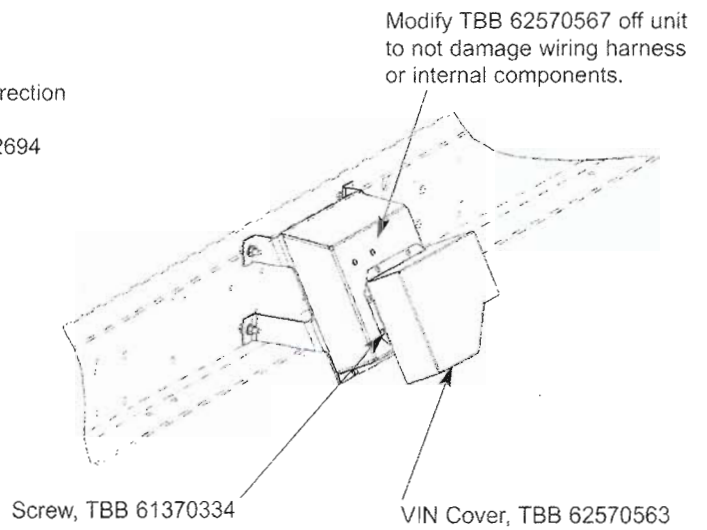


Figure 3 - Angled TCU mounting installation implemented on Chassis Yard #68197 on 5/21/03