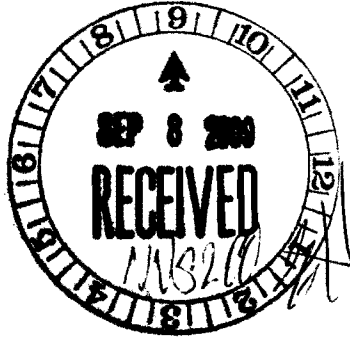


# DAIMLER



August 31, 2009

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

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. 04  
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 a copy of a document distributed to owners.

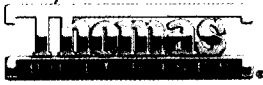
- (c) (8)(ii) Communications sent to owners: mailed August 11, 2009**
- (c) (10) Copy of Communication sent to owners is attached.**

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA  
Enclosure  
Certified Mail# 7002 3150 0004 1405 4653



August 11, 2009

Recall 09V-011  
Pre-recall Notice

This notice is sent to you in accordance with 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.

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.

This is the first of two letters you will receive regarding this subject. This letter is to inform you of an upcoming Recall to correct the issue noted above. At this time, replacement parts are not yet available for dealers. As soon as the parts are available, you will receive a second notice. When you receive it, please contact your authorized Thomas dealer to schedule the repair for your vehicle. You may continue to operate your vehicle in the interim. It is expected that labels will be available and the Recall notice will be sent to vehicle owners within the next two months.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s), which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner.

If you have questions, or need further information, please contact the Warranty Department (336) 822-2892, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern time, Monday through Friday or e-mail at [tracy.sauerbrey@thomasbus.com](mailto:tracy.sauerbrey@thomasbus.com). You may also wish to contact the Vehicle Safety hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590.

We regret any inconvenience this action may cause but feel certain you understand our interest in motor vehicle safety.

Sincerely,

Tracy Sauerbrey  
Warranty/Recall Department