

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

April 30, 2010

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

Re: Defect Information Reports, HDX Dash Heater Actuator

Mr. Smith

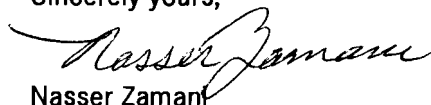
In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 1,515 Thomas Built Buses school buses manufactured November 15, 2007, through June 15, 2009, and approximately 118 Thomas Built Buses non school buses manufactured November 20, 2007, through May 8, 2009, equipped with Bergstrom actuator valve assembly part number 869162 manufactured November 15, 2007 through May 15, 2009 which may overheat and melt.

Thomas Built Buses began verbally notifying service locations of an interim remedy on April 23, 2010, and requested these locations to contact their customers. Written interim remedy work instruction were posted April 30, 2010

Attached are Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Reports and copies of information posted for service locations. Per the request of your office, this campaign has been separated into two groups: school bus applications, and non school bus applications

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,


Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail# 7006 3450 0003 7727 0551

A Daimler Company

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DAIMLER

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

April 30, 2010

(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: HDX (School bus applications)

Model Years affected: 2009 and 2010

Manufacture Dates: November 15, 2007 through June 15, 2009

Basis for determining population: All HDX models in school bus applications assembled with a Bergstrom actuator valve assembly part number 869162 manufactured November 15, 2007 through May 15, 2009.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Bergstrom Inc.

2390 Blackhawk Road, Rockford, IL 61125

Phone: 815-874-7821, Fax: 815-874-2144

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 1,515

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

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Bergstrom heater coolant flow valve actuator O-ring may allow coolant leakage into heater core compartment and the actuator PC board area potentially causing overheat and melting.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: An overheated and/or melted actuator may result in a vehicle fire.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: February 2010 – Thomas Buses began receiving complaints of thermal events potentially related to the Bergstrom defrost/heater unit. April 26, 2010 – Thomas Buses began verbally notifying service locations of interim remedy.

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

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: Final remedy has not been determined. Until a final remedy is determined, customers are advised to disconnect the power source from the actuator valve. Repairs will be performed by Thomas Built dealerships and Direct Warranty customers, i.e., customers approved by Thomas Built 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 Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately: TBD

Dealer notification will be completed approximately: Verbal notice to service location began April 23, 2010. Interim notice released to service location April 30, 2010.

(c)(9) Information for tire recalls: Not Applicable

(c)(10) Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners: See attached interim notice.

(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number: None. Thomas Buses will use number assigned by NHTSA