

RECEIVED

By kelly.schuler at 9:43 am, Sep 03, 2010

10V-396
(2 pages)

DAIMLER

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

September 1, 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, MVP-EF Megafuse Junction Box

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 1,173 Thomas Built Buses school and non-school buses manufactured September 12, 2008, through July 16, 2010, and equipped with a **Megafuse** junction box located in an area exposed to excessive splash and spray which may cause it to corrode rapidly potentially resulting in unexpected engine shut down or loss of vehicle lighting and windshield wipers.

Attached are Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information. 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 0643

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland OR 97217-7699
503-745-6910 Phone
503-745-5544 Fax
Nasser.Zamani@Daimler.com

DAIMLER

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

September 1, 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: MVP-EF (School bus applications)
Model Years affected: 2009 through 2011
Manufacture Dates: September 12, 2008, through July 16, 2010
Basis for determining population: All MVP-EF models in school bus applications assembled September 12, 2008, through July 16, 2010.
Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: Not Applicable
- (c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 1117
- (c)(4) **Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** 85%
- (c)(5) **Description of the defect:** On affected vehicles the **Megafuse** junction box is located in an area exposed to excessive road splash and spray. In some applications the cable connections may corrode rapidly. If undetected, extreme corrosion may cause a power cable to become separated from the power source resulting in an unexpected engine shutdown or loss of vehicle lighting and windshield wipers.
49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Unexpected engine shutdown or a loss of vehicle lighting and windshield wipers in certain traffic conditions could increase the potential of a vehicles crash.
- (c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** September 12, 2008 – Beginning of production of the MVP-EF with the **Megafuse** junction box (MFJ) located in an area exposed to excessive splash and spray. February 2010 – Thomas Bus began receiving complaints of excessive MFJ corrosion. July 16, 2010 – Production of the MVP-EF EPA07 Model with the MFJ in exposed location ended.
- (c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:** Not applicable
- (c)(8) (i) **Remedial program:** The final remedy has not been determined. Until service kits are available, customers are advised to monitor the corrosion level on the **Megafuse** junction block. If excessive corrosion is identified, customers should contact Thomas Bus for repair instructions. Repairs will be performed by authorized **Thomas** Bus service facilities.
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: To Be Determined
Dealer notification will be completed approximately: To Be Determined
- (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:** None. Thomas Bus will use number assigned by NHTSA