



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 21, 2011

MR. NASSER ZAMANI
MANAGER, COMPLIANCE AND
REGULATORY AFFAIRS
DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE
PORTLAND, OR 97217-3849

NVS-215kjs
11V-503

SUBJECT: POWER CABLE CORROSION

DEAR MR. ZAMANI:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Trucks North America's (DTNA) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER C2/2005-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-503 **Mfg's Report Date:** October 17, 2011

Components: ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3,300

Summary:

DAIMLER TRUCKS (DTNA) IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2005 THROUGH 2007 SAF-T-LINER C2 SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM APRIL 5, 2004 THROUGH DECEMBER 26, 2005. THE PASS-THROUGH POWER CABLE CONNECTIONS LOCATED BEHIND THE DRIVER'S SIDE KICK PANEL MAY CORRODE, POTENTIALLY RESULTING IN AN ELECTRIC FAULT OR SHORT CIRCUIT.

Consequence:

AN ELECTRIC FAULT OR SHORT CIRCUIT OF AN UN-FUSED POWER CABLE MAY RESULT IN A VEHICLE FIRE.

Remedy:

THE FINAL REMEDY IS BEING DEVELOPED. DTNA WILL SEND OWNERS AN INTERIM NOTICE ADVISING THEM TO INSPECT THEIR BUSES FOR CORROSION IN THE AREA OF THE POWER TERMINALS, AND IF EXCESSIVE CORROSION IS FOUND, TO TAKE THEIR VEHICLE TO AN AUTHORIZED SERVICE FACILITY. REPAIRS WILL BE MADE BY DTNA FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT DECEMBER 15, 2011. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DTNA AT 1-800-547-0712.

Notes:

DTNA'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS FL-616. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

This recall was the subject of a Preliminary Evaluation, PE11-031, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

Please be reminded of the following:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Willard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Ric Willard
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement