

**DAIMLER**

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

March 29, 2011

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 Report FL-602, FMVSS110 Noncompliance**

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 528 school and nonschool Thomas Built Buses manufactured April 17, 2000 through August 29, 2008, for a tire load range error printed on the Tire and Loading Information Label.

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Michael Mason, CAL-OSHA  
Enclosure  
Certified Mail# 7006 3450 0003 7727 0728

A Daimler Company

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## Defect Information Report (Section 573.6)

March 29, 2011

**(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:** Minotour on Ford Chassis, Minotour on GM Chassis

**Model Years affected:** 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006

**Manufacture Dates:** April 17, 2000, through August 29, 2008

**Basis for determining population:** School buses equipped with Tire and Loading Information labels listing "D" load range tires with recommended cold tire inflation pressure greater than 65 psi.

**Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:** Not Applicable

**(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 526  
509 - Minotour on Ford Chassis  
17 - Minotour on GM Chassis

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

**(c)(5) Description of the defect:** Information printed on the vehicle Tire and Loading Information label as required by 49 CFR 571.110 Sections S4.3(c) and (d) is incorrect. Labels state load range "D" tires. Vehicles are equipped with load range "E" tires. Incorrect tire information may lead to tire overloading or over inflation possibly resulting in a tire failure which may lead to a vehicle crash.

**(c)(6) Chronology of principal events:** Not Applicable

**(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data:** During February 2011, Thomas Built Buses was notified that 28 units potentially contained labels with incorrect tire load range information. Thomas bus conducted an investigation to validate the concern, and to determine the potential scope of the issue. In March 2011 Thomas Bus determined that a data entry error caused certain labels to be printed with incorrect information.

**(c)(8) (i) Remedial program:** Labels containing incorrect information will be replaced.  
**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 prior to May 28, 2011.  
Dealer and distributor notification will be completed approximately five business days prior to owner notification.

**(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:** FL-602