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11V-359
(3 pages)

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

July 18, 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, 10V-340 Population Expansion
MBE900 Grid Heater, School Bus Applications**

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 expanding the population of recall 10V-340. As part of DTNA's ongoing review of engines affected by this action owners of an additional 747 vehicle were identified. Owners of 727 of these vehicles reside in the United States. Owners of 722 of these vehicles were sent interim letter on July 6, 2011. Owners of the remaining vehicles will be notified this week.

Daimler Trucks expects the remedy for this campaign to be available by approximately July 29, 2011.

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report for 727 additional vehicles.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Amy Martin, Chief Counsel, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail# 7006 3450 0003 7727 0766

A Daimler Company

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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

July 18, 2011

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219

Brands: Freightliner Custom Chassis, Thomas Built Buses

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: Freightliner Custom Chassis: B2 106 CH
Thomas Built Buses: Saf-T-Liner C2 school buses

Model Years affected: 2011

Manufacture Dates: February 16, 2010, through July 7, 2010

Basis for determining population: School buses equipped with specific MBE900 EPA04 and EPA07 model engines with specific intake air grid heaters.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:

Detroit Diesel Corporation, C/o Daimler Trucks North America LLC

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 727

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

(c)(5) Description of the defect: The intake air grid heater may short circuit and fail due to excessive internal temperatures.

A short circuited grid heater could result in a vehicle fire and injury to vehicle occupants.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events:

Evobus Europe identified issues with grid heaters on bus models with engines similar to the MBE900 and MBE 4000 – October 2009

DD15 grid heater recall 09C-4 initiated – October 2009

DD13 grid heater recall 09C-5 initiated – October 2009

MBE900 and MBE 4000 investigation report submitted for review – November 2009

Determination that defect was related to motor vehicle safety – July 19, 2010

Amended DIR submitted removing MBE4000 engines from school bus population – March 2011

Additional owners identified June 2011

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

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: An additional external relay will be connected in series with the battery supply to prevent battery connection to the grid heater when the vehicle is not running and when the grid heater control signal is absent. Repairs will be performed by Detroit Diesel Corporation (DDC) Authorized Repair Facilities.

Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

(ii) Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date: Interim customer notification was by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected.

This was started July 6, 2011, and will be completed by July 21, 2009.

The remedy is expected to be available July 29, 2011. Owner, Dealer and Distributor notification will be completed at that time

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

(c)(11) Manufacturer's campaign number: 10C-5

DaimlerTrucks North America LLC

Daimler Trucks North America LLC

Detroit Diesel Corporation
13400 Outer Drive, West
Detroit, Michigan 48239-4001
Telephone: 313-592-5000

This letter is **ONLY** to inform you of an **UPCOMING** Recall

Subject: Safety Recall Notice 10C5 – EPA04 and EPA07 MBE900 Grid Heater

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. This notice is also sent in accordance with the Canadian Motor Vehicles Safety Act.

Daimler Trucks has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain School Bus model year 2006 through 2011 Freightliner Custom Chassis B2 school bus chassis (Thomas Built Bus Saf-T-Liner C2) manufactured from December 2, 2005 through June 30, 2010, equipped with specific MBE900 EPA04 and EPA07 engines assembled with specific intake air grid heaters.

Detroit Diesel Corporation has determined that some certified EPA04 and EPA07 MBE900 engines were assembled with a grid heater which may short circuit and fail due to excessive internal temperatures. If the condition goes undetected it may result in a fire internal to the engine compartment.

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 to order. As soon as parts are available, you will receive a second notice. When you receive the second letter, please contact your Authorized Repair Facility to schedule the Recall for your vehicle. You may continue to operate your vehicle in the interim. It is expected that parts will be available and the Recall notice will be sent to vehicle owners in the next two months.

However, should the intake air grid heater short circuit, please contact the closest Authorized Repair Facility to have your unit inspected and repaired, if necessary. To locate an authorized facility, search online at www.detroitdiesel.com/supportnetwork/.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s) which appears on the Pre-Recall Notification, please return the notification with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner. If you have leased this vehicle, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to the lessee within ten days. If you are a subsequent stage manufacturer, Federal law requires that you forward this notice to your distributors and retail outlets within five working days. If you have paid to have this recall condition corrected prior to this notice, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall. For more information on this, contact Warranty Administration at Detroit Diesel Corporation, 13400 Outer Drive West, Detroit, MI 48239 or call (313) 592-3708.

If you have questions about this Recall, please contact the Detroit Diesel Customer Support Center, 13400 Outer Drive West, Detroit, MI 48239, or call (313) 592-5800 between **8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday Eastern Standard Time**. If you are not able to have the defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, which is not longer than 60 days after you tender the vehicle for repair, you may wish to submit a complaint to Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or to <http://www.safercar.gov>. In Canada, if after contacting your dealer and/or Manufacturer Customer Service you have additional questions with regard to this recall, you may contact Transport Canada - Road Safety, 80 rue Noël, Gatineau, Quebec J8Z 0A1, or call 1-800-333-0510.

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