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11V-455
(2 pages)

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

August 24, 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, 10C-5
Population Expansion 10V-340, 10V-341, and 11V-359
MBE900 Grid Heater, School Buses and Non-School Vehicles**

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 recalls 10V-340, 10V-341, and 11V359. As part of DTNA's ongoing review of engines affected by this action, owners of an additional 200 vehicle were identified. Owners of 152 of these vehicles reside in the United States. The remedy for this campaign is available and owners will be notified by September 16, 2011.

Attached are Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Reports for the additional 152 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 0773

A Daimler Company

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Defect Information Report, 10V-341, 10C-5 (Section 573.6)

August 24, 2011

- (c)(1) **Manufacturer:** Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219
- Brands:** Freightliner, Sterling, Thomas Built Buses
- (c)(2) **Vehicles identification:**
Model(s) affected: Freightliner: M2, Sterling: Acterra, 7500, & 8500, Thomas Built Buses: HDX
Model Years affected: 2005 through 2012
Manufacture Dates: June 23, 2004, through March 15, 2011
Basis for determining population: Vehicles 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:** 43
- (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.
- 49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety:** 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
DIR submitted, recall # 10V-341 assigned by NHTSA – July 2010
New DIR submitted to address affected MBE4000 engines separately – March 2011
Additional owners identified - June 2011
Additional owners identified – August 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:** Customer notification will be by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. This will be completed approximately September 16, 2011
Dealer notification will be completed approximately September 9, 2011
- (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:** 10C-5