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By Recall Management Division at 7:49 am, Oct 18, 2011

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(2 pages)

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

October 17, 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-616
Description Saf-T-Liner C2 Pass-Through Power Studs**

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 3,300 Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner C2 school buses manufactured April 5, 2004, through December 26, 2005, and equipped with pass-through power studs that may corrode potentially resulting in an electrical fault or short circuit.

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

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 0827

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
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DAIMLER

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

October 17, 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: Saf-T-Liner C2 school buses

Model Years affected: 2005, 2007

Manufacture Dates: April 5, 2004, through December 26, 2005

Basis for determining population: All Saf-T-Liner C2 buses built prior to the addition of a flange on the lower edge of the left side kick panel.

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: Not Applicable

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 3,300

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

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Under certain environmental condition 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.

An electric fault or short circuit of an un-fused power cable may result in a vehicle fire.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: August 2011 – DTNA opened investigation and identified six incidents potentially related to corrosion of the pass-through power cable connections on vehicles manufactured between February 17, 2005 and November 20, 2005 and operated in the North Eastern United States and Canada. All six potentially affected vehicles were manufactured prior to a December 26, 2005 design change which added a flange to the lower edge of the drivers kick panel to provide a mounting surface to address concerns of loose panels. October 10, 2011 – DTNA determined that a defect related to motor vehicle safety existed in certain vehicles built with pass-through power cable connections located behind the driver's side kick panel prior to December 26, 2005.

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

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: The final remedy has not been validated. In the interim customers will be advised to inspect their vehicles for corrosion in the area of the power terminals, and if excessive corrosion is found, to take the vehicle to an authorized repair facility for repair. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized 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 December 15, 2011

Dealer and distributor notification will be completed approximately December 15, 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: FL-616