



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

July 31, 2012

Mr. NASSER ZAMANI  
DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA  
4747 N. CHANNEL AVENUE  
PO BOX 3849  
PORTLAND, OR 97217-3849

NVS-215KS  
12V-358

**Subject:** Front Axle Knuckles

Dear Mr. ZAMANI:

This letter serves to acknowledge DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) 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/SAF-T-LINER C2/2013

**Mfr's Report Date:** July 17, 2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-358

**Components:**

SUSPENSION:FRONT

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2

**Problem Description:**

Daimler Trucks North America (DTNA) is recalling two model year 2013 Saf-T-Liner C2 Thomas Built school buses manufactured from April 18, 2012, through May 11, 2012, and equipped with Detroit Axle brand front axle knuckles. The front knuckles on these vehicles may have a machining error in the wheel bearing area which may lead to premature spindle failure.

**Consequence:**

If the spindle fails, the wheel may separate from the knuckle, resulting in loss of vehicle control, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

DTNA will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and replace the affected components, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin on, or before, August 11, 2012. Owners may contact Daimler Trucks North America toll free at 1-800-547-0712.

**Notes:**

DTNA's recall campaign number is FL-629. Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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. Also, 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 one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at [kelly.schuler@dot.gov](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement