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12V-358
(2 pages)

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

July 17, 2012

Nancy Lewis
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: Amended Defect Information Report FL-629, Detroit Axle Front Axle Knuckle

Ms. Lewis,

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith amends previous report to include approximately 2 Thomas Built Buses school buses within recall FL-629 (12V266). These vehicles were manufactured April 18, 2012 through May 11, 2012 and equipped with Detroit Axle front axle knuckles that may contain a machining discrepancy that could lead to shorter than expected bearing and knuckle life.

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# 7003 2260 0001 3404 2365

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
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Portland OR 97217-7699
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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

Date: 7/17/12

(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 Bus.

Model Years affected: 2013

Manufacture Dates: Approximately April 18th through May 11th 2012

Basis for determining population: Axle scheduling and delivery data. Suspect components manufactured April 9th, 2012 through April 19th, 2012

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: Not applicable.

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 2

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: 30%

(c)(5) Description of the defect: Certain Detroit Axle front axle knuckles may have a machining discrepancy in the wheel bearing area. Due to incorrect machining tool set up, knuckles with out of specification machining could lead to shorter than expected bearing and knuckle life. An out of specification knuckle in the worst case scenario could result in separation of the wheel from the axle.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Separation of the wheel from the axle may occur and result in a crash.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: April 2012 Machine tool center point was replaced. Initial suspect components were received at Detroit Axle. Machining discrepancy was identified. Investigation opened to determine cause and effect. DTNA voluntary decided to conduct a safety campaign to recall potentially affected knuckles on 217 vehicles. July 2012 DTNA discovered 2 Thomas Built Buses SAF-T-Liner C2 School Buses previously believed to be repaired in the factory may be affected.

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

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: Potentially affected vehicles will be inspected. Components affected by machining discrepancy will be replaced. 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 August 11, 2012

Dealer and distributor notification will be completed approximately August 11, 2012

(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-629