



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 28, 2013

Mr. Nasser Zamani
Daimler Trucks North America
4747 N. Channel Avenue
PO Box 3849
Portland, OR 97217-3849

NVS-215KS
13V-468

Subject: Floor Joints May Not Stay Joined

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 BUSES/MINOTOUR/2013

Mfr's Report Date: September 17, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-468

Components:

STRUCTURE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 32

Problem Description:

Daimler Trucks North America (DTNA) is recalling certain model year 2013 Thomas Built Minotour DRW school buses manufactured June 29, 2013, through July 16, 2013. These vehicles were built with an alternative floor sheet metal which may not be properly bond to the other floor components due to the adhesive that was used.

Consequence:

As a result, the floor joints may be weaker than specified and, in the event of a crash, the floor may separate increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

DTNA will notify owners, and dealers will add fasteners to the floor joints, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin by November 16, 2013. Owners may contact DTNA at 1-503-745-6910. DTNA's recall number is FL-647.

Notes:

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.

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.

On August 20, 2013, NHTSA announced new changes to the requirements governing safety recalls. Some of these requirements are already in effect. Please ensure your company will be in compliance with each requirement on, or before, its respective effective date. For a summary of the requirements and their effective dates please click on the "New!" link at <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Manufacturers>.

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 or through the office email at 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 the most prominent.

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