



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 17, 2014

Mr. Andy Jones
Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N. Channel Ave
Portland, OR 97217

NVS-215KS
14V-760

Subject: Fuel Tank Strap may be Unsecured

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Trucks North America LLC'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/2013-2015

Mfr's Report Date: December 2, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-760

Components:

FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE:STORAGE:TANK ASSEMBLY:MOUNTING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 4,606

Problem Description:

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA) is recalling certain model year 2013-2015 Thomas Built Buses Minotour school buses manufactured April 2, 2012, to October 3, 2014, and built on a GM or Ford Chassis with a gasoline engine. In the affected buses, the fastener that secures the fuel tank strap may be loose.

Consequence:

An unsecured fuel tank strap could allow the fuel tank to contact the ground, increasing the risk of a fuel leak and fire.

Remedy:

DTNA will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and properly secure the fuel tank strap, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin on January 25, 2015. Owners may contact DTNA customer service at 1-800-745-8000. DTNA's number for this recall is FL-675.

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).

The information in your report suggests that DTNA may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. Please be reminded that under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. 49 CFR 573.6 Significant civil penalties can be assessed for this violation.

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 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".

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