



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 2, 2015

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

NVS-215KS
15V-565

Subject: Wheel Chair Lift Link Arm Pivot Holes

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/2006-2015
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER C2/2006-2015
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER EF/2006-2015
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER EFX/2006-2015
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER FS65/2006-2015
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER HDX/2006-2015

Mfr's Report Date: September 3, 2015

NHTSA Campaign Number: 15V-565

Components:

EQUIPMENT ADAPTIVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 4,334

Problem Description:

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA) is recalling certain model year 2006-2015 Thomas Built Buses FS-65, Saf-T-Liner C2, Saf-T-Liner EF, Saf-T-Liner EFX, Saf-T-Liner HDX, and Minotour DRW school buses manufactured January 3, 2006, to August 1, 2014, and equipped with certain Ricon model S2005, S2010, S5005, S5010, S5505, S5510 wheelchair lifts. The affected lifts are equipped with folding link arms that may have pivot holes that are too big, allowing the bearings to move out of position.

Consequence:

If the bearings move out of position, the stowed platform may have excessive movement resulting in failure of the platform mounting. This failure could cause the wheel chair lift platform to fall out of the vehicle when the doors are opened, increasing the risk of injury for the lift operator.

Remedy:

DTNA will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the link arms for damage or for displaced bearings. The platform will be inspected for cracks. Any damaged parts will be replaced, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin November 2, 2015. Owners may contact DTNA customer service at 1-800-745-8000. DTNA's number for this recall is FL-686.



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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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,



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