



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 1, 2017

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

NEF-150KS  
17V-126

**Subject:** Possible Loss of Steering due to Loose Pinch Bolt

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/SAF-T-LINER HDX/2017-2018

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 27, 2017

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 17V-126

**Components:**

STEERING:LINKAGES

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 6

**Problem Description:**

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA) is recalling certain 2017-2018 Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX transit buses. The upper pinch bolt that secures the mechanical connection between the steering wheel and the front wheels may not have been properly tightened.

**Consequence:**

The loose pinch bolt may result in a loss of steering and vehicle control, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

DTNA will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the steering shaft pinch bolt, tightening it as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin March 15, 2017. Owners may contact DTNA Customer Service 1-800-547-0712. DTNA's number for the recall is FL-733.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received DTNA's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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 a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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