

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-841

Date of Submission: *December 6, 2019*

Manufacturer: Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208

Type of Report: ☒ Safety Defect ☐ Non-Compliance

Vehicle Information

Model Yr. Start: 2020 Model Yr. End: 2021

Make: *Thomas Built Buses*

Model: *Saf-T-Liner C2*

Production Dates: Begin: 01/21/19 End: 10/11/19

Descriptive Information: *Certain school buses equipped with a Detroit Diesel DD5 Engine within the above manufacturing dates.*

Number potentially involved: 144 Estimated percentage of involve with defect: 10%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

On the affected vehicles, the fan assembly bolts may have been improperly torqued. A loose fan hub can cause damage to components in the fan area, In addition, because the noise from the loose fan hub is expected to be very audible, the school bus operator could be required to rapidly pull over with limited opportunity to identify a safe location. This could lead to a disabled school bus and result in a school bus evacuation procedure in an uncontrolled traffic situation, increasing the risk of an injury.

Describe the safety risk:

Improperly torqued fan clutch and fan hub bolts may lead to fan becoming loose allowing the fan to contact surrounding components and potentially become detached from the engine. The radiator may begin to leak as a result of a loose fan contacting the radiator, which could result in a disabled school bus and result in a school bus evacuation procedure in an uncontrolled traffic situation, increasing the risk of an injury.

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

Provide the chronology of events leading up to the defect decision or test data for the noncompliance decision.:

December 2018, DTNA received a notification of a loose fan hub assembly in the field. With no additional reports at this time, the incident was believed to be an isolated event. September 2019, DTNA received two additional reports from the field indicating a loose fan hub assembly. A warranty review indicated five claims. October – November 2019, DTNA began reviewing manufacturing processes and inspected vehicles at the Chassis plant. The inspection of 251 vehicles revealed 25 vehicles with improperly torqued fan hub assemblies due to an incorrect torque wrench use. Early December 2019, DTNA with an abundance of caution, decided to conduct a voluntary recall campaign on certain school buses that may have incorrectly torqued fan hub assembly fasteners.

Identify the Remedy

Describe the defect/noncompliance remedy program, including the manufacture's plan for reimbursement.

Fan Hub Fasteners will be inspected and repaired as needed. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities. Details of the reimbursement plan will be included in the owner's notification letter.

Identify the Recall Schedule

Describe the recall schedule for notifications.:

Customer notification will be made by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected.

Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date:	<i>2/3/2020</i>
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	<i>2/3/2020</i>
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	<i>2/3/2020</i>
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	<i>2/3/2020</i>

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): *FL-841*

DTNA Representative;



Andy Jones
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs