

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-845

Date of Submission: *April 17, 2020*

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: *2019* **Model Yr. End:** *2020*

Make: *Thomas Built Buses*

Model: *Saf-T-Liner C2, Saf-T-Liner HDX, Saf-T-Liner EFX*

Production Dates: **Begin:** *09/10/2018* **End:** *03/29/2019*

Descriptive Information:

Certain school buses equipped with air disc brakes with incomplete production caliper torque data manufactured at the York Axle Manufacturing Plant.

Number potentially involved: *581* **Estimated percentage of involve with defect:** *20%*

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

On certain school buses, the brake caliper mounting bolts may be incorrectly torqued. This could result in caliper bolts loosening.

Describe the safety risk:

Insufficiently torqued bolts may not provide adequate clamping force between the brake caliper and brake anchor plate potentially resulting in reduced brake effectiveness. Reduced brake effectiveness could lead to a vehicle crash.

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

Late October 2019, DTNA received a report of a damaged wheel end from a loose brake caliper. November 2019, DTNA reviewed warranty data and found six reports indicating vehicles with under torqued calipers. December 2019, DTNA conducted a field inspection of 35 vehicles. The inspection identified five vehicles with under torqued caliper mounting bolts. January 2020 – February 2020 the supplier provided caliper torque data on all axles assembled at the axle manufacturing plant. The torque data was reviewed and it was determined that the vehicles with reported failures did not have complete torque data. Due to the absence of this data, DTNA could not fully analyze the caliper mounting bolt issue for the identified vehicles. February 2020, out of an abundance of caution, DTNA decided to initiate a voluntary safety recall for school buses equipped with air disc brakes and incomplete production caliper torque data. April 17, 2020, DTNA discovered duplicate VINs within initial reported vehicle count and therefore population is amended accordingly.

Identify the Remedy

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

Potentially affected school buses will be inspected and repaired as necessary. 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:	05/01/2020
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	05/01/2020
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	05/01/2020
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	05/01/2020

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-845

DTNA Representative;



Andy Jones
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs