

## Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

**FL-916**

**Date of Submission:** December 20, 2021

**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:** 2022 **Model Yr. End:** 2022

**Make:** Thomas Built Buses

**Model:** Ford Minotour

**Production Dates:** **Begin:** 06/25/2021 **End:** 07/20/2021

**Type:** School Bus

**Descriptive Information:** Minotour school buses with a Ford chassis and a wheelchair lift

**Number potentially involved:** 2 vehicles

**Estimated percentage of involve with defect:** 100 %

### Defect / Noncompliance Description

**For this Defect/Noncompliance:**

**Describe the defect or noncompliance:**

On the affected Minotour school buses, the driver may be able to release the park brake and shift the transmission out of Park and into a drive gear while the wheelchair lift is deployed, which is not compliant with FMVSS 404 S4.1.4. These vehicles were caught in inspection prior to delivery to the ultimate purchaser.

**If a noncompliance, provide the applicable FMVSS:** FMVSS 404

**Describe the safety risk:**

Wheelchair lifts that do not meet the requirements of FMVSS 404 may have an increased risk of injury.

**Identify any warning which can precede or occur:** The event will only occur if the operator does not follow the proper procedures while operating the wheelchair lift.

**If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component.:** There are no defective or noncompliant components involved in this recall. The defect is due to the installation at Thomas Built Buses

## **Involved Components**

**Component Name:** NA

**Component Description:** N/A

**Component Part Number:** N/A

## **Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination**

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

In November 2021, DTNA received a report from a dealer indicating that 2 new Minotour buses delivered to the dealer could be placed into gear while the lift was deployed. Thomas built buses immediately began an investigation to understand the issue and determine the scope. Production Quality records were reviewed to determine if the lifts had had a quality inspection. A review of production records indicated that the bus exhibiting the issue did not go through the normal production process. Thomas Built promptly began an investigation that included reviewing the production records to identify any additional buses that did not go through the normal production process; no such vehicles were found. In December 2021, upon determining the issue and the affected population, DTNA decided to conduct a non-compliance recall for certain Minotour school buses equipped with a wheelchair lift.

## **Identify the Remedy**

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

The wheelchair lift wiring will be modified as needed to ensure compliance with FMVSS 404. Repairs will be made 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:** 02/17/2022

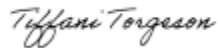
**Planned Dealer Notification End Date:** 02/17/2022

**Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:** 02/17/2022

**Planned Owner Notification End Date:** 02/17/2022

**Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable):** FL-916

### DTNA Representative;



Tiffani Torgeson  
Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Affairs