



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

July 21, 2022

Ms. Tiffani Torgeson
Manager Compliance and Regulatory Affairs
Daimler Trucks North America, LLC
4747 N Channel Ave
Portland, OR 97217

NEF-107ES
22V-510

Subject: Passenger Seat Frames May Crack

Dear Ms. Torgeson:

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 EFX/2014-2022
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER HDX/2014-2022

Mfr's Report Date: July 19, 2022

NHTSA Campaign Number: 22V-510

Components:

SEATS
SEATS:MID/REAR ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 4,344

Problem Description:

Daimler Trucks North America, LLC (DTNA) is recalling certain 2014-22 Thomas Built Buses HDX and EFX school buses equipped with 39-inch S3C seat frames and 3-point flex seatbelts. The passenger seat frames may crack and rotate from fatigue.

Consequence:

Cracked passenger seat frames may not adequately secure passengers in the event of a crash, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

The remedy is currently under development. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed September 16, 2022. Owners may contact DTNA's customer service at 1-800-547-0712. DTNA's number for this recall is FL946.

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.nhtsa.gov.

Please ensure the following requirements are met:

Per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier name, contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the passenger seat frames. If your company manufactured the component itself, then please state so in the 573 report.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

As required in Part 573.6, please amend the chronology to provide a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and the numbers of deaths and/or injuries, with their specific dates of receipt. If claim count exceeds 10 claims, please provide the total number of claims, and a receipt date range for those claims.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(i)).

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

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 eight 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.

Daimler Trucks North America, LLC's contact for this recall will be Emily C. Smith who may be reached by email at emily.c.smith@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement