

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-510

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC

Submission Date : AUG 11, 2022

NHTSA Recall No. : 22V-510

Manufacturer Recall No. : FL946



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC

Address : 4747 N. Channel Avenue
Portland OR 97217-3849

Company phone : 800-745-8000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 1,808

Estimated percentage with defect : 4 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2014-2022 Thomas Built Buses HDX and EFX

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : The subject population includes approximately 1,808 Model Year 2014-2022 Thomas Built Bus ("TBB") HDX and EFX school bus vehicles produced within the above-specified production date range in the United States.

Under certain extreme operating conditions, that may include adverse road conditions, a metal fatigue-related cracking may develop on 39 inch S3C seat frames with a 3-point flex belt seat rear wall mount bracket. Over time, if the condition manifests itself, the crack may propagate and lead to fracturing of the wall mount bracket.

Production Dates : MAY 24, 2013 - OCT 22, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The subject vehicles are equipped with specific passenger seats that may experience abnormal structural fatigue that may impact seat strength during a crash. Root cause has not yet been determined.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Fatigue of the seats frame structure could result in frame cracking, thus causing the seat to shift and rotate. The seat may therefore not provide adequate restraint to a belted passenger, which may increase the risk of injury to vehicle occupants in a crash.

Description of the Cause : TBB continues to investigate root cause.

Identification of Any Warning A fractured seat frame mounting bracket may be noticed during daily walk that can Occur : through, cleaning, bus inspections and routine maintenance.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Passenger Seat Frame

Component Description : Seat Lower Frame

Component Part Number : 30628

Component Name 2 : Passenger Seat Frame

Component Description : Seat Lower Frame

Component Part Number : 30630

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

In or about mid-2017, DTNA's seat supplier informed DTNA of a fractured S3C seat frame. DTNA reviewed the matter, concluded it did not present a safety-related concern, and documented the matter. In or about September 2018, DTNA received several reports of fractured seat frames from one specific customer location. Thereafter, DTNA began an investigation, which included field inspections, engineering laboratory evaluations and field tests. Upon review, DTNA concluded that the matter did not present a safety-related concern, and again documented the matter but also monitored the situation. During this period of monitoring, in or about late 2019, DTNA concluded that the issue, if it manifested, was limited to very small numbers of seats concentrated in a specific geographic location. A root cause such as uniquely severe road use/environmental use cases was conjectured but not fully understood, given the limited information available. That said, DTNA again reaffirmed its prior analysis that the matter did not present an unreasonable risk to safety within the meaning of the Safety Act.

March 08, 2022, DTNA received a report from a customer with buses containing cracked seat wall mount

brackets. DTNA began an extensive investigation to reassess its prior analysis. Among other things, TBB conducted an on-site customer visit to assess the alleged condition, inspect available field units, and analyze the resultant fleet inspection information.

See miscellaneous document for more detail

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : DTNA does not have a remedy identified at this time. DTNA will provide the appropriate information as soon as it is available.

How Remedy Component Differs
from Recalled Component :

Identify How/When Recall Condition
was Corrected in Production :

Recall Schedule :

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

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 16, 2022 - SEP 16, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 16, 2022 - SEP 16, 2022

* NR - Not Reported