

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-634

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC

Submission Date : AUG 04, 2023

NHTSA Recall No. : 22V-634

Manufacturer Recall No. : FL843



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC

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

Company phone : 800-745-8000

Number of potentially involved : 7,561

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2011-2021 Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : All Saf-T-Liner HDX School Buses built with wall mounted barrier at the first rafter on passenger side after 10/21/2009, when FMVSS 571.222 changed school bus barrier requirements.

Production Dates : OCT 21, 2009 - DEC 16, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : On the affected school buses, the forward barrier was determined not to meet the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 222, S5.2.3: Barrier performance forward. When 5/8 inch of aesthetic foam was added to seat barriers for styling purposes, FMVSS 222 changed the conditions of the seat barrier test with which the prior seat complied. The amount of energy absorbed by the seat barrier under the revised test did not meet the specification standard 5.2 of 452 joules / person within the first 356 mm of deflection.

FMVSS 1 : 222 - School bus passenger seating and crash protection

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In the affected population, the forward barrier was determined not to meet the requirements of S5.2.3 of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 222. In the event of a crash, if the occupant contacts the barrier they may experience higher impact than intended, which may result in injury to the occupant. There have been no reported injuries or accidents related to this defect.

Description of the Cause : NR
Identification of Any Warning NR
that can Occur :

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Wall Mounted Barrier
Component Description : Wall Mount Barrier High Back Foam
Component Part Number : 159527

Component Name 2 : Wall Mounted Barrier
Component Description : Wall Mount Barrier High Back Foam
Component Part Number : 159528

Component Name 3 : Wall Mounted Barrier
Component Description : Wall Mount Barrier High Back Foam
Component Part Number : 159529

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Thomas Built Bus
Address : 1408 Courtesy Road
High Point North Carolina 27260
Country : United States

Chronology :

October 30, 2019, NHTSA notified DTNA of potential noncompliance with FMVSS 222, S5.2.3: Barrier performance forward relating to certain barriers equipped on the Saf-T-Liner HDX School Buses. Based on the information provided by NHTSA's testing, DTNA began to investigate the issue to evaluate the potential noncompliance and to determine the scope and establish the potentially affected population. November 2019 DTNA requested a visit to NHTSA's test facility to review findings. On December 11, 2019, DTNA visited the

NHTSA test facility to review test procedure and findings with NHTSA. On December 17, 2019, DTNA determined that a non-compliance exists on certain vehicles built with the suspect barrier mounted at the 1st rafter on the passenger side. The issue was that a purely aesthetic piece of foam changed the technicalities of how structural testing is performed, resulting in barrier with the foam not passing the amended FMVSS 222, S5.2.3 requirement. On January 16, 2020, DTNA submitted a petition seeking exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. 30118 (d) and 49 C.F.R. Part 556 on the basis that a noncompliance with FMVSS 222 is inconsequential as it relates to motor vehicle safety. On or about August 4, 2022, DTNA received notice from NHTSA that petition was not approved. On August 10 2022, DTNA filed the amended DIR to begin the process of recalling those Barriers upon receiving the notification of NHTSA's determination regarding the petition. I mid-August 2022, DTNA refiled this recall at the request of the agency to supersede 19V899. DTNA developed a final remedy for this issue and on August 4, 2023, DTNA updated the description of the remedy section of its Defect Information Report. Additionally, on August 4, 2023, DTNA is adjusting the recall population to remove Canadian vehicles that were inadvertently included as part of the prior filing.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : A Daimler Truck North America authorized service facility will install a spacer block between the seat rail and the seat barrier frame to raise the seat barrier in order to comply with FMVSS 222. The Recall will take approximately one hour and will be performed free of charge. Details of the reimbursement plan will be included in the owner's notification letter. Owners are directed to seek reimbursement through authorized dealers.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

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 : OCT 04, 2022 - OCT 04, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 04, 2022 - OCT 04, 2022

* NR - Not Reported