

Defect / Noncompliance Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL959

Date of Submission: 11/14/2022

Manufacturer: Daimler Truck North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208

Type of Report: Safety Defect Non-Compliance

Vehicle Information

Model Yr. Start: 2021 **Model Yr. End:** 2023

Make: *Thomas Built Buses*

Model: *Minotour*

Production Dates: **Begin:** 6/3/2020 **End:** 7/19/2022

Descriptive Information:

Certain Minotour school buses configured with six rows of passenger seats were built with the incorrect barrier behind the driver seat.

Basis for Determination of the Recall Population:

A limited production run of Minotour school buses built with six (6) rows of passenger seats were configured with the incorrect barrier located behind the driver seat manufactured within the above dates.

Number potentially involved: 20

Estimated percentage of involved with defect: 100%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

On the affected school buses, the forward barrier installed on the left side of the bus, behind the driver's seat, was determined not to meet the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 222, S5.2.3: Barrier performance forward when installed in this configuration.

Describe the safety risk:

In the affected population, the forward barrier installed in the school bus 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 forces than intended, which may increase the risk of injury to the occupant. There have been no reported injuries or accidents related to this defect.

Identify any warning which can precede or occur: NA**If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component.:**

There are no defective or noncompliant components on the affected vehicles. This issue is related only to the barrier configuration on the affected vehicles.

Involved Components

Component Name: Barrier

Component Description: Left Side Barrier

Component Part Number: B640239000 used in conjunction with 6 rows of passenger seats

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination**Provide the chronology of events leading up to the defect decision or test data for the noncompliance decision:**

On October 24 2022, Thomas Built Buses identified a Minotour school bus in production process built with the barrier behind the driver's seat that passes FMVSS 222 S5.2.3 for a different seating configuration. This Minotour school bus with the incorrect barrier was not released. As a result, Thomas Built Buses (TBB) immediately began an investigation. In the course of the investigation TBB reviewed build records to determine if any additional buses were built with the same configuration. On November 07, 2022, TBB also reviewed warranty records and field reports and found no reports related to this issue. At the conclusion of the reviews, 20 Minotour school buses were identified with a similar barrier configuration. On November 09 2022 DTNA decided to conduct a voluntary non-compliance recall on the 20 Thomas Built Buses Minotour school buses.

Identify the Remedy

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

For the affected buses the barrier will be replaced. The repair will be conducted by Daimler Truck North America authorized service facilities. Daimler Truck North America shall be offering a refund for owner-paid repairs covered by this recall if the repair was performed prior to the date indicated in the reimbursement plan, which will be posted with owner's notification letter. Owners are directed to seek reimbursement through authorized dealers.

Identify the Recall Schedule

Describe the recall schedule for notifications.:

Customer notification will be made by first class mail using Daimler Truck North America records to determine the customers affected.

Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date:	01/12/2023
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	01/12/2023
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	01/12/2023
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	01/12/2023

Does DTNA plan to file inconsequentiality petition? Yes No

Manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL959

DTNA Representative;



Sam Geser
Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Affairs