

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-333

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC**Submission Date :** FEB 22, 2024**NHTSA Recall No. :** 23V-333**Manufacturer Recall No. :** FL973**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC

Number of potentially involved : 23,590

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

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Company phone : 800-745-8000

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2024 Thomas Built Buses SAF-T-LINER C2

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : One particular interior body panel joint formed at the last rafter, near the structure of the D-pillar, on certain Thomas Built Buses (TBB) Saf-T-Liner C2 and Saf-T-Liner C2 Jouley school buses may not meet the tensile requirements of FMVSS 221 School bus body joint strength..

Production Dates : JAN 24, 2020 - APR 18, 2023

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2021-2023 Thomas Built Buses SAF-T-LINER C2 JOULEY

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : One particular interior body panel joint formed at the last rafter, near the structure of the D-pillar, on certain Thomas Built Buses (TBB) Saf-T-Liner C2 and Saf-T-Liner C2 Jouley school buses may not meet the tensile requirements of FMVSS 221 School bus body joint strength.

Production Dates : JAN 24, 2020 - MAR 27, 2023

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential**Description of Noncompliance :**

Description of the Noncompliance : On certain TBB Saf-T-Liner C2 and Saf-T-Liner C2 Jouley school buses, the rear interior joint formed by the D-panel overlapping the side-sheet at the last rafter may not meet the joint strength requirement of FMVSS 221 School bus body joint strength.

FMVSS 1 : 221 - School bus body joint strength

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A body Joint on a school bus that does not meet the joint strength requirement of FMVSS 221 may increase the risk of injury in a crash.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Side Sheet Joint

Component Description : Side Sheet Joint - Interior

Component Part Number :

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : DAIMLER TRUCK NORTH AMERICA

Address : 4555
NORTH CHANNEL AVENUE Portland Oregon 97217

Country : United States

Chronology :

In mid-April 2023, TBB identified a possible production mis-installation at the interior D-pillar joint where the D-panel overlaps the side-sheet at the last rafter. TBB promptly corrected production installation process and began an investigation to determine the scope and potential consequences of the issue. Later in April 2023, while Thomas Built Buses continued working to identify potential affected vehicles, Thomas Built Buses began conducting FMVSS 221 strength testing to determine if the panels, as built, would be noncompliant. In early May TBB conducted a field inspection to further assess the scope of the affected vehicles. In early May 2023, DTNA decided to initiate a voluntary noncompliance recall for certain Thomas Built Buses C2 school buses that may not meet the joint strength requirements of FMVSS 221 at the lower D-pillar. There are no warranty claims, field or service reports, nor any known accidents, injuries, or deaths. On May 26, 2023 DTNA learned 13 units of the original population are test vehicles and are removed from the impacted population. On November 3, 2023 DTNA is providing revised planned final owner and dealer notification dates. On November 14, 2023 DTNA is providing revised planned final owner and dealer notification dates. On February 22, 2024 DTNA amended the description of the affected vehicle models to include the Saf -T- liner Jouley model information which was inadvertently grouped together with the Saf-T-Liner C2 when the original

Defect Information Report was filed. There is no change to the overall affected vehicle population or model years.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Additional mechanical fasteners will be added to the joints on affected vehicles in order to bring the vehicles into compliance. The repair will be conducted by a 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.

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 Truck North America records to determine the customers affected.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 11, 2023 - DEC 11, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 11, 2023 - DEC 11, 2023

* NR - Not Reported