

Daimler Trucks North America LLC

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
Thomas Built Buses
1408 Courtesy Road
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336.889.4871 Phone

August 2015
FL685
NHTSA # 15V-425 Non-School Buses
NHTSA # 15V-432 School Buses

Subject: TBB Emergency Door Handles

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA), on behalf of its wholly owned subsidiary, Thomas Built Buses, Inc. (TBB), has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Vista and TL-960 vehicles and on Saf-T-Liner Conventional, ER, MVP-EF, EFX, MVP ER, FS65, C2, and HDX vehicles manufactured February 5, 2001, through May 29, 2012.

The stem which joins the outside emergency door handle to the door opening mechanism may corrode. Excessive material loss of the stem due to corrosion could result in the outside handle separating from the door mechanism while trying to open the door from the exterior of the bus. In the event of an emergency, opening the emergency door from outside the bus may cause the handle to separate from the opening mechanism, potentially delaying evacuation and increasing the risk of injury to vehicle occupants.

This is the first of two notices you will receive regarding this subject. This letter is to inform you of an upcoming Recall to correct the issue noted above. Until parts are available, TBB asks bus operators to follow federal and state mandated pre-trip and post-trip inspections and ensure the correct operation of the emergency doors, especially operation of the door from outside the bus. You may continue to operate your vehicle in the interim. Note, TBB vehicles are built with redundant exits, push out windows and roof hatches to aid passengers if an evacuation is required. The recall of the door stem does not impact the use of the interior door handle. The interior door handle will operate as designed.

The second notice will inform you when the final remedy is available. ***When you receive the second notice***, please contact your authorized Thomas Built Buses dealer to schedule the Recall for your vehicle.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s), which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the Warranty Department at (336) 889-4871, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. You may wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at (888) 327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

THOMAS BUILT BUSES WARRANTY DEPARTMENT
Enclosure