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By Recall Management Division at 7:13 am, Jan 23, 2013

Daimler Trucks North America
Nasser Zamani
Senior Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

January 22, 2013

Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report FL-638, Headlamp Circuit Breaker

Ms. Lewis,

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith reports a voluntary safety campaign to recall approximately 143 Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner EFX School Bus manufactured March 29, 2012, through November 14, 2012, with a specific model of Daytime Running Lights and equipped with a 20 amp headlamp circuit breaker which may trip during continuous operation of the headlamps in high beam mode resulting in a temporary loss of power to the headlamps, marker lamps, tail lamps, and dash lighting until the circuit breaker cools and automatically resets.

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Amy Martin, Chief Counsel, CAL-OSHA
Enclosure
Certified Mail# 7003 2260 0001 3404 2440

A Daimler Company

Daimler Trucks North America LLC
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Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

January 22, 2013

(c)(1) Manufacturer: Daimler Trucks North America LLC
P.O. BOX 3849
Portland, Oregon 97208
(503) 745-5219

Brands: Thomas Built Buses

(c)(2) Vehicles identification:

Model(s) affected: Saf-T-Liner EFX School Bus

Model Years affected: 2013 and 2014

Manufacture Dates: March 29, 2012, through November 14, 2012

Basis for determining population: Saf-T-Liner EFX school buses equipped with 100% DRL option code C3676-24-000

Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer: Not Applicable

(c)(3) Total number of vehicles potentially affected: Approximately 143 US (15 Canada)

(c)(4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect: Unknown

(c)(5) Description of the defect: On certain Saf-T-Liner EFX school buses equipped with a specific model of Daytime Running Lights the 20 amp headlamp circuit breaker may trip during continuous operation of the headlamps in high beam mode resulting in a temporary loss of power to the headlamps, marker lamps, tail lamps, and dash lighting until the circuit breaker cools and automatically resets.

49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety: Under certain driving conditions a temporary loss of power to the headlamps, marker lamps, tail lamps, and dash lighting may increase the risk of a vehicle crash.

(c)(6) Chronology of principal events: August 30, 2012 – Thomas Bus received a complaint of headlamps, marker lamps, tail lamps, and dash lighting going out while the headlamps on a vehicle were being operated in high beam mode. September through November 2012 – TBB investigated the issue and began testing to validate reports. November 2012 – TBB switched from a 20 amp headlamp circuit breaker to a 30 amp circuit breaker in production. December 2011 – While its investigation continued, TBB released Vehicle Owner Notice 83 (VON 83) and mailed notifications to owners of potentially affected vehicles. January 2012 – DTNA determined that under certain conditions it is possible that the headlamp circuit breaker may trip when operating the headlamps in high beam mode for a shorter time than originally understood. DTNA determined that a defect potentially related to motor vehicle safety exists.

(c)(7) Noncompliance-test or other data: Not Applicable

(c)(8) (i) Remedial program: The 20 amp type 1 circuit breaker will be replaced by a 30 amp type 1 circuit breaker, and a new label will be installed on the cover of the power distribution module. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities.
Reimbursement Plan: Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

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- (c)(8) **(ii) Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date:** Customer notification for VON 83 was completed on December 14, 2012, and all potentially affected customers have been provided with the parts required to complete the repair. Customers who have not submitted documentation indicating that they have completed the repair will be notified by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. As of January 10, 2013, 63 vehicles have been documented as repaired (44%). Customer notification will be completed no later than March 22, 2013
Dealer and distributor notification will be completed no later than March 22, 2013
- (c)(9) **Information for tire recalls:** Not Applicable
- (c)(10) **Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners:** Copies will be submitted as a supplemental report when available. See enclosed copy of Vehicle Owner Notice 83 distributed to dealers on December 13, 2012, including a representative copy of the letter send to owners on December 14, 2012.
- (c)(11) **Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-638