

Defect Information Report
(Section 573.6)

FL-763

Date of Submission: ***March 23, 2018***

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

Type of Report: Safety Defect Non-Compliance

Vehicle Information

Model Yr. Start: *2014* Model Yr. End: *2018*

Make: *Thomas Built Buses*

Model: *Saf-T-Liner C2, Saf-T-Liner HDX, Saf-T-Liner EFX, Minotour*

Production Dates: Begin: *8/27/2014*

 End: *2/5/2018*

Descriptive Information:

School bus vehicles equipped with certain Syntec S3B non-restraint seats

Number potentially involved: *6606* **Estimated percentage of involve with defect:** *100%*

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

Syntec reported: "Syntec has determined that under certain extreme operating conditions (e.g. adverse road condition, repetitive shock loads or occupant abuse) a metal fatigue crack may develop on the S3B non-restraint seat rear wall mount bracket. If so, over time, the crack may propagate and lead to fracturing of the wall mount bracket." Reference Syntec NHTSA Recall 18E-015.

If a noncompliance, provide the applicable FMVSS:

Check if this recall only affects products in certain geographic regions.

Describe the safety risk:

Syntec reported: "A seat with a wall mount bracket severely cracked or fractured does not meet the requirements of S5.1.3 of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 222 and may increase the risk of injury to the occupants in a crash." Reference Syntec NHTSA Recall 18E-015.

If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component.

*Syntec Seating Solutions, LLC
200 Swathmore Ave
High Point, NC 27263*

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

Provide the chronology of events leading up to the defect decision or test data for the noncompliance decision.:

In June 2017 DTNA received reports from 2 customers related to cracked seat wall mount brackets. DTNA began an investigation to determine the scope and consequences of the issue. In August of 2017 DTNA coordinated its efforts with Syntec. DTNA and Syntec conducted extensive physical testing, FEA, and data analysis. In March 2018 Syntec decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall on certain S3B non-restraint seats. In March 2018 DTNA decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall on Thomas Built Buses equipped with suspect Syntec S3B non-restraint seats.

Identify the Remedy

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

An additional wall bracket will be installed between the wall rail and the seat on each suspect seat. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities. Copies of the reimbursement plan will be submitted as a supplemental report when available.

Identify the Recall Schedule

Describe the recall schedule for notifications.:

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

Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date:	<i>5/21/2018</i>
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	<i>5/21/2018</i>
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	<i>5/21/2018</i>
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	<i>5/21/2018</i>

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): *FL-763*

DTNA Representative;



Andy Jones
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs