

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-801

Date of Submission: **December 10, 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: 2017 Model Yr. End: 2019

Make: *Thomas Built Buses*

Model: *Saf-T-Liner C2*

Production Dates: Begin: *06/01/2016*

End: *06/08/2018*

Descriptive Information:

Certain Saf-T-Liner C2 Buses

Number potentially involved: 32 Estimated percentage of involve with defect: 70%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

Adhesive used to support roof header on Saf-T-Liner C2 buses was not installed in the correct location for bonding which may affect the joint strength.

If a noncompliance, provide the applicable FMVSS:

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

Describe the safety risk:

Improper bonding of the roof header joint may affect the structure of the bus in a roll over event increasing risk of injury.

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

N/A

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

In early June 2018, Thomas Built Buses identified an issue with the adhesive placement on a bus during production. DTNA immediately began an investigation to determine the scope and potential consequences of the issue. An inspection of buses in process noted some level of adhesive misplacement on 5 additional buses. In mid-June tensile testing was conducted on joint samples that indicated they may not meet the FMVSS 221 joint strength if the adhesive was not in the proper location. In early July 2018, an individual assembler was identified on the second shift that did not always properly place the adhesive. All buses built on second shift were placed on hold for inspection of the roof header joints. In mid-August 2018, the inspection of the buses placed on hold was completed. An additional inspection on buses built on first shift confirmed that the issue was only present on buses built on second shift. At the end of August 2018, a bus without adhesive was tested to FMVSS 220 and the Kentucky Pole test. DTNA received the test reports at the end of September 2018, which indicated the bus passed both FMVSS 220 and the Kentucky Pole test. DTNA continued working to identify potentially affected vehicles. DTNA found that it was not possible to identify the buses that were built by the operator in question. October 2018, during review of the test results, it was determined that further analysis was required. November 2018, updated test results were received for review. On December 10, 2018, out of an abundance of caution, DTNA decided to conduct a voluntary recall on certain Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner C2 buses that may have some level of adhesive misplacement.

Identify the Remedy

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

Buses will be inspected for roof header adhesive placement and mechanical fasteners will be added to the joints as necessary. 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:	02/07/2019
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	02/07/2019
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	02/07/2019
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	02/07/2019

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-801

DTNA Representative;



Andy Jones
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs