



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 9, 2019

Mr. Andy Jones
Daimler Trucks North America LLC
4747 N. Channel Ave.
Portland, OR 97217

NEF-150MR
19V-550

Subject: Roof Hatch External Handle May Break/FMVSS 217

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Trucks North America LLC's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

THOMAS BUILT BUSES/MINOTOUR/2019-2020
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER C2/2019-2020
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER EFX/2019-2020
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER HDX/2019-2020

Mfr's Report Date: July 25, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19V-550

Components:

STRUCTURE:BODY:DOOR/WINDOW:EMERGENCY EXIT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 2,081

Problem Description:

Daimler Trucks North America LLC (DTNA) is recalling certain 2019-2020 Thomas Built Minotour, Saf-T Liner C2, Saf-T Liner EFX, and Saf-T Liner HDX school buses equipped with Safe Fleet Prolo Roof Escape hatches. Due to a manufacturing issue, the roof hatch external handle may unexpectedly break under reasonable use.

Consequence:

If the roof hatch external handle breaks, in the event of an emergency, the hatch cannot be easily opened from outside the vehicle, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

DTNA will notify owners, and dealers will install a new handle, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin September 21, 2019. Owners may contact DTNA customer service at 1-800-547-0712. DTNA's number for this recall is FL-819.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Per the requirements of 49 USC 30119, please provide the part number, name and description of the component or components that need to be replaced to remedy this recall condition. This information should be provided in an amended 573 in the "Describe what distinguishes the remedy component from the recalled component" section.

Please amend your filing to provide the populations of each model, if known, within the vehicle descriptive information text box.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Joshua Neff
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement