

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-819

Date of Submission: July 24, 2019

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: 2019 **Model Yr. End:** 2020

Make: Thomas Built Buses

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

Production Dates: **Begin:** 09/10/2018 **End:** 06/26/2019

Descriptive Information:

Certain school buses equipped with a Safe Fleet Prolo Roof Escape Hatch within the referenced above dates that may contain a handle identified in equipment recall 19E-042.

Number potentially involved: 2081 **Estimated percentage of involve with defect:** 20%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

DTNA's roof hatch handle supplier, Specialty Manufacturing Co., states per NHTSA 19E-042, "Certain production lots of these cast handles were found to contain a higher than allowed/specified level of porosity or voids." Further, "The excess porosity and voids can create failure points in the handle leading to breakage under reasonable use."

Describe the safety risk:

Specialty Manufacturing Co. states per NHTSA 19E-042, "Failure of the external release handle will prevent the hatch release mechanism from being actuated from outside the vehicle." A failure of external release of the handle could potentially delay the evacuation of the vehicle during an emergency increasing the risk to an injury.

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

Specialty Manufacturing Co.
13501 South Ridge Drive
Charlotte NC 28273

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

March 2019, Thomas Built Buses notified the supplier of a broken handle found during an inspection. A preliminary warranty data search and review of customer complaints showed no other similar reports, indicating that the broken handle may have been an isolated incident. July 2019, the supplier notified DTNA of an equipment recall filing, 19E-042. July 18, 2019 DTNA, with an abundance of caution, decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall.

Identify the Remedy

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

Certain school buses will be repaired with a new handle. 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

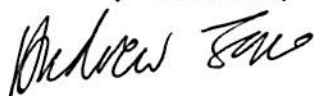
Describe the recall schedule for notifications.:

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:	09/21/2019
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	09/21/2019
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	09/21/2019
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	09/21/2019

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-819

DTNA Representative;



Andy Jones
Manager
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs