



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 1, 2019

Mr. Antonio Mole
Daimler Vans USA, LLC
8501 Palmetto Commerce Pkwy
Ladson, SC 29456

NEF-150MR
19V-665

Subject: Hood may Open While Driving

Dear Mr. Mole:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Vans USA, 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:

FREIGHTLINER/SPRINTER 1500/2018-2019
FREIGHTLINER/SPRINTER 2500/2018-2019
FREIGHTLINER/SPRINTER 3500/2018-2019
FREIGHTLINER/SPRINTER 4500/2018-2019
MERCEDES BENZ/SPRINTER 1500/2018-2019
MERCEDES BENZ/SPRINTER 2500/2018-2019
MERCEDES BENZ/SPRINTER 3500/2018-2019
MERCEDES BENZ/SPRINTER 4500/2018-2019

Mfr's Report Date: September 18, 2019

NHTSA Campaign Number: 19V-665

Components:

LATCHES/LOCKS/LINKAGES:HOOD:LATCH

Potential Number of Units Affected: 52,004

Problem Description:

Daimler Vans USA, LLC (DVUSA) is recalling certain 2018-2019 Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner Sprinter vehicles. The screw connection on the upper hood catch may have been improperly tightened. As a result, factors such as the vehicle's speed, wind resistance and road conditions may cause the hood to open while the vehicle is being driven.

Consequence:

A hood that opens while driving can reduce the driver's visibility, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

DVUSA will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the screw connection, tightening it as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin November 1, 2019. Owners may contact DVUSA customer service at 1-877-762-8267. DVUSA's number for this recall is VS3HAUBOSS.

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.

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