

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19V-831

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America LLC**Submission Date :** NOV 19, 2019**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19V-831**Manufacturer Recall No. :** FL-839**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America LLC

Address : 4747 N. Channel Avenue

Portland OR 97217-3849

Company phone : 800-745-8000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 30

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2020 Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Certain Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX School Buses equipped with a Detroit DD8 Engine and an Allison Transmission.

Production Dates : MAY 03, 2017 - APR 17, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : On certain school buses, the Flex-Plate/Torque Converter fasteners may not have been properly torqued at the plant. Improperly torqued fasteners at the flex plate may diminish the clamp load and can become broken or dislodged within the flywheel housing.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the torque converter bolts are loose or cross threaded, bolts may fall into the flywheel housing. The loose bolts may lead to illumination of the CEL, damage to the flex plate, or become lodged into the starter, which could result in a disabled school bus and result in a school bus evacuation procedure in an uncontrolled traffic situation, increasing the risk of an injury.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

July 2019, DTNA received two reports from the field of broken fasteners in the flywheel housing on school buses being delivered from the school bus manufacturing plant to the dealership. The issue was communicated to the school bus manufacturing plant requesting an inspection to identify potential scope of the issue. July - August 2019, 33 school buses were inspected at the plant. The inspection indicated all school buses had correctly torqued flex plate/torque converter bolts. August 2019, Thomas Built Buses updated the manufacturing process to ensure the correct torque and loc-tite was being applied on the flex plate/torque converter bolts as per vehicle specification. August - November 2019, DTNA began evaluating the process to determine if the bolts were properly installed and backed out or if the bolts were not properly installed on the reported busses. DTNA evaluated torque sequence, loc-tite application, and continued to monitor warranty claims and field reports for additional complaints. The review of field complaints indicated no additional claims outside of the initial two school buses reported with broken flex-plate/torque converter fasteners. November 12, 2019, DTNA with an abundance of caution, decided to conduct a voluntary recall campaign on certain school buses that may have incorrectly torqued Flex-Plate/Torque Converter fasteners.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The Flex Plate/Torque Converter fasteners will be inspected and repaired if necessary on the identified School buses. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities. Customer notification will be done by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. Details of the reimbursement plan will be included in the owner's notification letter.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

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

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 17, 2020 - JAN 17, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 17, 2020 - JAN 17, 2020

* NR - Not Reported