

Amended Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-874

Date of Submission: **Feb 11, 2021**

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: 2014 **Model Yr. End:** 2019

Make: Freightliner

Model: Business Class M2

Production Dates: **Begin:** 10/17/2013

End: 09/25/2018

Descriptive Information:

Specific vehicles equipped with Mahle-Behr radiators and Jiffy-Tite quick connect fitting that are built with two particular kinds of plumbing designs of the transmission cooler lines at the radiator tank, manufactured within the mentioned production dates noted above.

Number potentially involved: 15,835 **Estimated percentage involved with defect:** 5%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

On the affected vehicles, retaining clip that engages the transmission oil cooler line connection to the in tank oil cooler may fail and allow the transmission fluid cooler hose to disengage, which may allow fluid leak. The fluid leak should normally be detectable, but it is possible for the leak, if sufficiently rapid, to occur before a driver can detect and move the vehicle off the road.

If a noncompliance, provide the applicable FMVSS

Describe the safety risk:

If a rapid loss of transmission fluid leak occurred while the vehicle was in motion, and before detected by the driver, it could lead to fluid on the road which could present a risk of a motor vehicle hitting the fluid and causing loss of control.

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

Over the period 2017 to the present, in response to indications primarily of minor In-Tank Oil Cooler (ITOC) connection issues, DTNA investigated ITOC leakage—each time coming to the conclusion that the issue was detectable. At no time did DTNA determine, nor should it have determined, that there was a defect within the scope of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. In late January 2021 to early February 2021, DTNA's on-going analysis revealed that, on a specific population of vehicles built with two particular kinds of plumbing designs of the transmission cooler lines at the radiator tank, there is possibility of a retaining clip failure. Although no facts have changed that would alter DTNA's Safety Act scope determination, out of great respect for NHTSA and for the process of examining potential defects, on February 5, 2021, DTNA, out of an abundance of caution, decided to initiate a voluntary safety recall to campaign certain vehicles equipped with those two plumbing designs, Mahle-Behr Radiators and Jiffy-Tite quick connect fittings that are built with two specific plumbing designs of the transmission cooler lines at the radiator tank manufactured within a particular build-date range. February 12, 2021, on review of recall schedule, the schedule for dealer and customer notification was determined to be incorrect, and therefore DTNA adjusted the dates to reflect the actual recall schedule.

Identify the Remedy

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

Retaining clip that engages the transmission fluid cooler lines at the radiator tank will be removed and replaced by a collar and clamp connection. Customer notification will be done by first class mail using Daimler Trucks North America records to determine the customers affected. 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:	<i>04/11/2021</i>
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	<i>04/11/2021</i>
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	<i>04/11/2021</i>
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	<i>04/11/2021</i>

Manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): *FL-874*

DTNA Representative;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Stoffels'.

Larissa Stoffels

Executive Manager, Vehicle Safety
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs