## DAIMLER

## **Amended Defect Information Report**

(Section 573.6)

## FL-888

Date of Submission: May 19, 2021- (amended on 10/28/2021)

Manufacturer:	Daimler Trucks North America LLC
	P.O. BOX 3849
	Portland, Oregon 97208

Type of Report:X Safety DefectOno-Compliance

### Vehicle Information

Model Yr. Start:2021Model Yr. End:2022Make: Thomas Built BusesModel: Saf-T-Liner C2, Saf-T-Liner HDXProduction Dates:Begin:12/15/2020End:04/14/2021Descriptive Information:Vehicles built with certain suspect tie rod clamp nuts.Number potentially involved:479Estimated percentage of involve with defect:1%

### **Defect / Noncompliance Description**

#### For this Defect/Noncompliance:

**Describe the defect or noncompliance:** On certain vehicles, the tie rod clamp may be loose due to the supplied lock nuts being over-crimped. This can cause thread galling of the bolt and nut during installation. When galling occurs, it is possible that assembly torque may be achieved but the clamp is still loose.

**Describe the safety risk:** The tie rod clamp being loose could lead to the threaded tie rod ends becoming loose and eventual steering loss if the rod end pulls out of the tie rod, or the tube is broken due to vibration of the loose joint increasing the risk of a crash.

Identify any warning which can precede or occur: Decrease in steering response If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component: Company Name: USK International S.A. de C.V. Country: Mexico Address 1: Av. Huehuetoca S/N Address 2: City: San Mateo State: Ixtacalco Zip/Postal Code: 54713 First Name: Jorge Last Name: Silvester Position: Sales Account Manager Email: jsylvester6@aol.com Phone: 440.725.3189

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### **Involved Components**

Component Name: Tie Rod Clamp Nut Component Description: Component Part Number: 10010(MPTUE0171)

### Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

Late December, 2020, despite a lack of warranty claims and any other indications of failures on customer vehicles, DTNA's axle assembly plant in Mexico reported a tie rod clamp nut quality concern and promptly began a containment effort. January, 2021, DTNA discussed with the tie rod supplier the concerns, and the supplier established what it believed to be a "clean" date for tie rods assembled with properly crimped clamp nuts. No information suggested that the problem extended further, and all indications were that no defective parts escaped the production plant. February 2021, DTNA's axle assembly plant in Detroit reported finding similarly suspect parts and promptly began containment. March 2021, DTNA resumed discussions with the supplier on this issue to understand scope of issue. Early May 2021, DTNA received DFMEA from the supplier suggesting a potential safety concern. May 2021, even though DTNA is not aware of any field failures related to this concern nor has any information to suggest the existence of a defect with an unreasonable risk to the safety of any vehicles in the field, DTNA decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall. October 2021, due to parts availability, the recall release has been delayed and is expected to launch in mid-December 2021.

### **Identify the Remedy**

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

**reimbursement.** Tie rod clamp bolts and nuts will be replaced. Repairs will be performed by Daimler Trucks North America authorized service facilities. Details of the reimbursement plan will be included in the owner's notification letter.

### 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:	07/17/2021
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	07/17/2021
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	07/17/2021
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	07/17/2021

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-888

**DTNA Representative;** 

5. Staffels.

Larissa Stoffels Executive Manager, Vehicle Safety Compliance and Regulatory Affairs