

Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

FL-899

Date of Submission: August 25, 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: 2022 **Model Yr. End:** 2022
Make: *Thomas Built Buses* **Model:** *Minotour*
Production Dates: **Begin:** 01/11/2021 **End:** 06/29/2021

Descriptive Information: *Minotour school buses.*

Number potentially involved: 846 **Estimated percentage of involve with defect:** 85%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance: *In certain Minotour school buses, adhesive may not have been properly applied between the lower interior side panel and the seat rail. If the adhesive is not properly applied, the joint may not meet the joint strength requirement of FMVSS 221 S5.1.*

Describe the safety risk: *A joint in the school bus cabin that does not meet the joint strength requirement of FMVSS 221 S5.1 may increase the risk of injury in the event of a collision.*

If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component: *There is no defective component. The defect is a result assembly of the components by Thomas Built Buses.*

Involved Components

Component Name: Interior Side Panel
Component Description: Lower Interior Side Panel
Component Part Number: 59003917

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

At the end of July 2021, Thomas Built Buses identified a bus with an improperly assembled joint during an internal process audit. Thomas Built Buses immediately began an investigation to determine the scope and potential impact of the improperly assembled joint. In mid-August 2021, Thomas Built Buses completed a review of all Minotour School Buses on site and determined 85% of on site vehicles had had this issue. On August 19, 2021 DTNA decided to initiate a voluntary noncompliance recall for Minotour school buses that may have an improperly assembled interior sidelining joint.

Identify the Remedy

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

Additional mechanical fasteners will be added to the joint on affected vehicles in order to bring the vehicles into compliance. 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:	<i>10/17/2021</i>
Planned Dealer Notification End Date:	<i>10/17/2021</i>
Planned Owner Notification Begin Date:	<i>10/17/2021</i>
Planned Owner Notification End Date:	<i>10/17/2021</i>

Manufacture's identification code for this recall (if applicable): *FL-899*

DTNA Representative;



Larissa Stoffels
Executive Manager, Vehicle Safety
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs