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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 23, 2021

Ms. Larissa Stoffels   NEF-107MR
Exec Mgr, Vehicle Safety
Daimler Trucks North America, LLC   21V-714
4747 N. Channel Ave
Portland, OR 97217

Subject: Fan Belt May Come Loose

Dear Ms. Stoffels:

This letter serves to acknowledge Daimler Trucks North America, 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:
THOMAS BUILT BUSES/SAF-T-LINER HDX/2022

Mfr's Report Date: September 15, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-714

Components:
ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING:COOLING SYSTEM:FAN

Potential Number of Units Affected: 50

Problem Description:
Daimler Trucks North America, LLC (DTNA) is recalling certain 2022 Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX school buses. The fan drive pulley assembly bolts may be incorrect or improperly installed. Incorrect or improperly installed bolts may lead to a loose fan belt, resulting in a disabled bus.

Consequence:
A disabled school bus may require an evacuation procedure in an uncontrolled traffic situation, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:
DTNA will inspect and repair the fan drive pulley assembly mounting bolts as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed on November 8, 2021. Owners may contact DTNA's customer service at 1-800-547-0712. DTNA's number for this recall is FL-902.

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.nhtsa.gov.

As required in Part 573.6, please amend the chronology to provide a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information (such as the numbers of deaths and/or injuries), with their dates of receipt. If claim count exceeds 10 claims, please provide the total number of claims, and a receipt date range for those claims.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

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.

Daimler Trucks North America, LLC's contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

NHTSA
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC
SAFETY ADMINISTRATION