

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-272

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC

Submission Date : MAY 23, 2022

NHTSA Recall No. : 22V-272

Manufacturer Recall No. : FL928



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC

Address : 4747 N. Channel Avenue

Portland OR 97217-3849

Company phone : 800-745-8000

Number of potentially involved : 138

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2023 Thomas Built Bus HDX

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Thomas Built Commercial Bus

Production Dates : MAR 28, 2018 - MAR 23, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Certain HDX commercial buses had the positive battery cable routed in a manner that permitted those battery cables to rub on the transmission oil cooler hoses, creating the possibility of an electrical fault or, in the extreme, a thermal event.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the battery cable rubs on the hose long enough, there is a potential that after prolonged contact the hose could wear thru the electrical conduit, creating the risk of an electrical short or, in the extreme, a fire.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : DTNA reasonably expects this potential chafe should be detected during regular maintenance intervals. The maintenance manual specifically states to inspect the battery cables for chafing every 4,000 miles (6,400 Km) or 60 days. Because chafing must continue for a prolonged time and would show visible signs of chafing before electrical cables wear to the point of a safety risk, DTNA reasonably believes there would be many opportunities for detection and repair before the issue would rise to the safety risk described above occurring.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : CLAMP-CABLE,NYLON,AWG 0000

Component Description : Battery Cable Clamp

Component Part Number : DK 016 0020

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Hellerman Tyton

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

In mid-February of 2022, DTNA received a report from the field of a potential thermal event on a three-year-old HDX school bus; according to the best of DTNA's knowledge, no injuries or deaths occurred in this event. DTNA immediately began an investigation into the issue. No additional field reports or warranty claims of fire or similar symptoms were found. In early March of 2022, as soon as reasonably practicable to investigate the vehicle, DTNA's Cause and Origin investigator examined the suspect bus and determined the origin of the thermal event was likely at the battery cable crossing over the transmission cooler hoses. Within that same month and lasting into April, DTNA began a comprehensive review of warranty data and field reports. Upon reviewing information more closely for this defect, DTNA found 17 total warranty claims ranging from November of 2018 to December of 2020 for the battery cables rubbing or contacting the transmission oil cooler hoses. None of these claims indicated any evidence of a fire or similar thermal event. Nonetheless, in April 2022, out of an abundance of caution DTNA decided to conduct a voluntary recall on certain Thomas Built Bus HDX chassis. There are no injuries or deaths reported. In early May of 2022, in an effort to reduce the administrative burdens and to simplify the reporting requirements, DTNA decided to merge recalls FL928 (22V271 - School Bus) and FL929 (22V272 Non School Bus). There are, materially speaking, no differences in the recalls except for the vocations of the population. To further clarify, the newly merged recall population will be designated as FL928A (22V271) for school bus vocations and FL928B (22V272) will be designated for commercial bus vocations. In addition, per a request from the Agency, a more concise description was added to the Involved Components section of the DIR filing.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Inspection and repair of the cable routings, if required, will be performed by Daimler Truck North America authorized service facilities. Daimler Truck North America shall be offering a refund for owner-paid repairs covered by this recall if the repair was performed prior to the date indicated in the reimbursement plan, which will be posted with owner's notification letter. Owners are directed to seek reimbursement through authorized dealers.

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 : JUN 20, 2022 - JUN 20, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUN 20, 2022 - JUN 20, 2022

* NR - Not Reported