

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-762

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC**Submission Date :** OCT 12, 2022**NHTSA Recall No. :** 22V-762**Manufacturer Recall No. :** FL957**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Trucks North America, LLC

Number of potentially involved : 17,613

Address : 4747 N. Channel Avenue

Estimated percentage with defect : 80 %

Portland OR 97217-3849

Company phone : 800-745-8000

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2011-2023 Thomas Built Buses EFX & HDX

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX and EFX school buses built with certain roof lap joint configurations and manufactured in the production range listed above.

On certain Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX and Saf-T-Liner EFX school buses the adhesive may not have been properly applied in between the steel panels that forms the roof sheet lap joints. If the adhesive is improperly applied, the joint may not meet the joint strength requirement of FMVSS 221 S5.1.

Production Dates : MAR 01, 2010 - AUG 01, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Noncompliance :**

Description of the Noncompliance : On certain Thomas Built Buses Saf-T-Liner HDX and EFX school buses, the roof exterior joint with improperly applied adhesive was found to not meet the joint strength requirement of FMVSS 221 S5.1.

FMVSS 1 : 221 - School bus body joint strength

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A body Joint on a school bus that does not meet the joint strength requirement of FMVSS 221 S5.1 may increase the risk of injury in the event of a crash.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : N/A

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Roof Sheet panel

Component Description : Roof Sheet panel

Component Part Number : 140599

Component Name 2 : Roof Sheet panel

Component Description : Roof Sheet panel

Component Part Number : 56000857

Component Name 3 : Roof Sheet panel

Component Description : Roof Sheet panel

Component Part Number : 56000896

Component Name 4 : Roof Sheet panel

Component Description : Roof Sheet panel

Component Part Number : 56001211

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Thomas Built Bus

Address : NR

NR

Country : United States

Chronology :

In 2010, Thomas Built Buses (TBB) established a new procedure for the exterior roof sheet lap joint adhesion validated to FMVSS 221 requirements through good engineering judgment and analysis. In 2011, TBB validated the roof sheet joint, performing physical testing against FMVSS requirements, and found that the joints passed with considerable margin. From that time until recently, TBB continued to produce the same design, with the same manufacturing process, and therefore had no reason to believe the joint did not comply with the

standards. On September 1, 2022 NHTSA Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance notified TBB that a sample, taken from a Saf-T-Liner HDX school bus that the agency had purchased, failed the FMVSS 221 joint strength test for the exterior roof lap joint. Immediately, on September 2, 2022, based on the testing information provided by NHTSA, TBB began an investigation to evaluate the potential noncompliance, determine the scope, and establish the potentially affected population. September 9, 2022 TBB requested a visit to NHTSA's test facility to review findings and the test equipment and procedures. On September 22, 2022, TBB visited Applus IDIADA Karco Engineering. In late September, 2022 TBB reviewed data from that visit and conducted additional engineering verification testing that suggested previously-unexpected manufacturing variability in joint strength. On October 6, 2022, TBB promptly decided to initiate a voluntary noncompliance recall for certain Thomas Built Buses HDX and EFX school buses that may be built with roof exterior roof sheet lap joints with improperly applied adhesive, which subsequently may not meet the joint strength requirement of FMVSS 221 S5.1. TBB has received no warranty claims, no field reports, no customer complaints, no information of injury nor fatality, nor any other indication of a noncompliance until NHTSA's September 2022 notification.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Additional mechanical fasteners will be added to the joints on affected vehicles in order to bring the vehicles into compliance. The repair will be conducted by a 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 : DEC 10, 2022 - DEC 10, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 10, 2022 - DEC 10, 2022

* NR - Not Reported