

Defect / Noncompliance Information Report (Section 573.6)

FL-960

Date of Submission: November 23, 2022 (Amended June 27, 2023)

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

Type of Report: **Safety Defect** **Non-Compliance**

Vehicle Information

Model Yr. Start: 2023 **Model Yr. End:** 2023

Make: *Thomas Built Busses (TBB)*

Model: *SAF-T-LINER C2 JOULEY 1-74 passenger bus*

Production Dates: **Begin:** 12/21/2021 **End:** 9/2/2022

Descriptive Information:

Supplier alerted FCCC of a voluntary recall of a group of electric vehicle battery packs used on SAF-TLINER C2 JOULEY School Busses. According to the supplier, these battery packs, due to a potential defect in the foil harness, may lose communication between the battery and Battery Management System. In the configuration of battery packs used on the Jouley, that loss of communication, in turn, could potentially result in a decrease of vehicle power, albeit not a complete loss of power. DTNA investigated the issue and out of an abundance of caution decided to recall on the supplier's early notification.

Basis for Determination of the Recall Population:

The supplier of the electric vehicle battery notified DTNA of the specific part serials with a potential defect. At the current time, certain vehicles, determined by supplier's battery serial numbers are included in the recall population. However, as DTNA continues to investigate, the population may be amended.

Number potentially involved: 151

Estimated percentage of involved with defect: 100%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

Describe the defect or noncompliance:

The supplier indicated that the defect occurs due to a defect in the joint of a foil pack in the harness. This results in a loss communication between the battery and the battery management system (BMS). The battery pack would be powered down and result in a change in the vehicles state of charge (SOC). The SAF-T-LINER C2 JOULEY features a parallel battery configuration, thus the vehicle will see a sudden decline in SOC, and potentially experience a series of on displayed warnings, and potentially de-rate.

Describe the safety risk:

Failure mode could result in a loss of power due to sudden change of SOC, which could decrease the vehicle's motive power, and which in turn could increase the possibility of a crash.

Identify any warning which can precede or occur:

No known warning prior to the decrease in power on the configuration used in the Jouley.

If applicable, identify the manufacture of the defective or noncompliant component.:

Supplier: Proterra

Contact Name: Kelly Irving, Customer Quality Manager

Business address: 1 Whitlee Ct. Greenville, SC 29607

Business telephone number: 864.641.6044

Involved Components

Component Name: Battery Assembly HV 2170 EB2

Component Description: HV Battery Pack

Component Part Number: A66-24665-000

Component's country of origin: United States

Business address: 1 Whitlee Ct. Greenville, SC 29607

Business telephone number: 864.641.6044

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

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

DTNA learned on 11/18/2022 of the intent of Proterra to recall for a potential defect. 11/21/2022, DTNA immediately began investigating the battery serial list provided by Proterra to find potentially affected vehicles and locate uninstalled components. On 11/23/2022 out of an abundance of caution, DTNA decided to recall. In December, 2022, DTNA received a revised list of affected battery serial numbers from the supplier and, upon cross-referencing that list with production vehicle delivery information, determined that the population of affected US SAF-T-LINER C2 JOULEY units was one hundred-thirty five (twenty-four less than originally reported); DTNA amends this notification accordingly. On May 1, 2023, Proterra first notified DTNA of additional suspect batteries and at that time sent to DTNA a list of additional potential suspect battery serials not included on the initial population list. DTNA immediately matched these battery serials to VINs. In doing so, DTNA found 16 additional SAF-T-LINER C2 JOULEY vehicles not earlier identified as part of the recall population; DTNA amends this notification accordingly. DTNA is not aware of any field occurrences related to this failure. There are no death and/or injuries. On June 27, 2023, DTNA amended its Defect Information Report to update the description of the remedy to clarify that the battery packs on the affected vehicles will be inspected and if needed, the battery packs will be replaced.

Identify the Remedy

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

The battery packs will be inspected by connecting to a Proterra Diagnostics Tool to look for two specific fault codes relating to a battery pack brick failure, if either of the specific fault codes are present, the battery pack will be replaced. The repair will be performed by certified HV3 Daimler Truck North America authorized service facilities and will take approximately half an hour. 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.

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. Interim customer notifications were sent on 01/17/2023.

Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date: 07/10/2023

Planned Dealer Notification End Date: 07/10/2023

Planned Owner Notification Begin Date: 07/10/2023

Planned Owner Notification End Date: 07/10/2023

Does DTNA plan to file inconsequentiality petition? Yes No

Manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): FL-960

DTNA Representative;



Sam Geser

Manager, Compliance and Regulatory Affairs