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By Recall Management Division at 10:19 am, Sep 21, 2011

11V-474  
(4 Pages)

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Daimler Trucks North America  
Nasser Zamani  
Senior Manager  
Compliance and Regulatory Affairs

September 20, 2011

Dan Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington D.C. 20590

## **Re: Defect Information Report FL-611, Cummins V-Band Clamp Recall**

Mr. Smith

In reference to NHTSA campaign number 11V-474, it was determined that school buses were included in the original DIR dated September 1, 2011 and should have resulted in a separate DIR. An amended DIR has been attached.

In accordance with Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Daimler Trucks North America LLC herewith reports a safety campaign to recall approximately 6225 Freightliner, Freightliner Custom Chassis, Thomas Built Buses vehicles and 1825 Thomas Built Buses, school buses manufactured September 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010, and equipped with V-Band clamp T-bolts where the T-Bolt may be susceptible to fracture or failure due to an error in the supplier's plating process.

Attached is Daimler Trucks North America's Defect Information Report.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Nasser Zamani

Cc: Amy Martin, Chief Counsel, CAL-OSHA  
Enclosure  
Certified Mail# 7006 3450 0003 7727 0452

A Daimler Company

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## Defect Information Report

(Section 573.6)

September 20, 2011

**(c)(1) Manufacturer:** Daimler Trucks North America LLC  
P.O. BOX 3849  
Portland, Oregon 97208  
(503) 745-5219

**Brands:** Freightliner, Freightliner Custom Chassis, Thomas Built Buses

**(c)(2) Vehicles identification:**

**Model(s) affected:**

Freightliner	FCCC	Thomas Built Bus
Business Class M2	XBR, XBS, XCL, XCM, XCS, XCR, MC, MT45, MT55, and S2	MVP-EF
Coronado	Chassis	Saf-T-Liner HDX

**Model Years affected:** 2011, 2012

**Manufacture Dates:** September 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

**Basis for determining population:** Cummins Inc. supplied a list of affected engine serial numbers.

**Component manufacturer if other than the vehicle manufacturer:**

Cummins Inc.  
500 Jackson Street  
Columbus, Indiana 47201  
1-812-377-5000

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## (c)(2)(v) Manufacturer that purchased affected incomplete vehicles

Manufacturer	Approximate # Affected	Address	Phone	Email
Altec Hiline	10	Altec Industries 1255 Port Terminal Rd Duluth MN 55802	218-722-9200	
Caio	8	2104 Meredith Park Dr McDonough GA 30253	770-898-2757	
Champion Motor Coach	3	331 Graham Rd Imlay City MI 48444	800-331-5761	dcutcher@championbus.com
Classic Trolley	3	836 Mason Way Medford OR 97501	800-460-3934	
Coachmen RV of Indiana	20	423 N Main St Middlebury IN 46540	574-825-5821	rnappier@coachmen.com
Fleetwood	123	1031 US 224 East Decatur IN 46733	260-728-2121	doug.haas@fleetwoodrv.com
Forest River Diesel Division	73	1800 W Hively Ave Elkhart IN 46514	574-522-1785	
Glaval Bus	19	914 County Road 1 Elkhart IN 46514	800-445-2825	
Hi V Company	2	750 E Slauson Ave Los Angeles CA 90011	323-235-6650	
Jayco Inc	66	903 S Main St Middlebury IN 46540	574-825-5861	
Morgan Olson	146	1801 S Nottawa Rd Sturgis MI 49091	269-659-0277	ron.curran@morganolson.com
Newmar	37	355 Delaware ST Nappanee IN 46550	574-773-7791	rlehman@newmarcorp.com
Rexhall	1	46147 7th St West Lancaster CA 93534	661-726-0565	
Supreme Corp	10	2592 E Kercher Rd Goshen IN 46528	574-642-4730	mark.barczak@startransbus.com
Thor Motor Coach	130	301 S Main St Elkhart IN 46515	574-262-2624	jwesley@damonrv.com
Tiffin	302	105 2nd St NW Red Bay AL 35582	256-356-8661	liz.jones@tiffinmotorhomes.com
Universal Specialty Vehicles Inc.	2	19052 Harvill Ave Perris CA 92570	951-943-7747	
Ulilimaster	256	65906 State Rd 19 Wakarusa IN 46573	574-862-3441	emcdonald@utilimaster.com
Winnebago	237	605 W Crystal Lake Rd Forest City IA 50436	641-585-3535	djordal@winnebagoind.com

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- (c)(3) **Total number of vehicles potentially affected:** Approximately 6225 vehicles in US
- (c)(4) **Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the defect:** Unknown
- (c)(5) **Description of the defect:** Cummins has determined that due to an error in the component supplier's plating process, the T-bolt included on the V-Band clamp assembly may be susceptible to fracture or failure when subjected to stress or load and may cause the clamp to loosen and the inlet or outlet sections attached to the DOC/DPF housing to disconnect allowing hot exhaust gases to vent prior to the tailpipe, creating a risk of combustion or damage to adjacent materials. In cases where resilient mounting is employed, the DOC/DPF housing could disconnect completely from the exhaust system or vehicle in the unlikely event that both V-Band clamps were to fail or loosen. In either case, the vehicle's engine check engine light will illuminate.
- 49CFR Section 577.5(f) Evaluation of the risk to motor vehicle safety:** If the inlet or outlet sections disconnect, hot gases can vent prior to exiting the tailpipe, creating the risk of combustion and a fire.
- (c)(6) **Chronology of principal events:** On August 10, 2011, Cummins notified DTNA that it had filed a DIR on 8/8/11 with NHTSA that a defect related to motor vehicle safety may exist in certain V-Band Clamps and T-Bolts with Cummins ISB6.7, ISC8.3, ISL9, ISX11.9 and ISX15 engines. On August 11, 2011, Cummins supplied DTNA with a list of affected engine serial numbers and requested Customer owner data and ATD serial numbers. DTNA began an initial investigation to determine whether its vehicles were affected. On August 28, 2011, DTNA determined that this may constitute a safety-related defect with respect to the vehicle applications identified above.
- (c)(7) **Noncompliance-test or other data:** N/A
- (c)(8) (i) **Remedial program:** V-Band Clamps on potentially affected vehicles will be replaced. Repairs will be performed by Cummins authorized service facilities.
- (ii) **Estimated Owner and Dealer Notification Date:** Cummins will notify owners of the recall beginning August 2011. Cummins will administer this recall campaign.
- (c)(9) **Information for tire recalls:** Not Applicable
- (c)(10) **Communications sent to manufacturers, dealers and owners:** Cummins will administer this recall campaign.
- (c)(11) **Manufacturer's campaign number:** FL-611