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Thomas Built Buses, Inc.
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Thomas Built Buses Company Background

Thomas Built Buses was founded in 1916 by Perley A. Thomas, and quickly gained a reputation for building high quality streetcars. Within a few years, Thomas-built streetcars were in use in many of the major cities in the U.S. For nearly two decades Thomas was a major force in the industry, building more than 400 streetcars. In 1936, the company ceased production of streetcars and launched a new product: school buses. By the early 1960s, Thomas Car Works had built a national reputation in the school bus business. In 1972, the company changed its name to Thomas Built Buses to better reflect its success in bus manufacturing.

Since the first Thomas Built bus rolled off the assembly line in 1936, the company has focused on delivering the smartest and most innovative buses in North America. That dedication has made Thomas Built a leading bus manufacturer in North America, offering a full line of school, commercial, specialty, childcare and activity buses to value-minded buyers. In fact, more than one-third of the school buses on the road today are Thomas Built Buses.

Thomas Built continues to lead the industry through its ongoing introduction of new products to meet all its customers' needs. The introduction of the Saf-T-Liner® C2 revolutionized the Type C category with its increased visibility, comfortable driver's area and modern look and feel. The Saf-T-Liner® C2^e Hybrid was developed to reduce emissions and improve fuel economy by 30 percent or more. The newest product, MyBus™, is engineered specifically for childcare and activity centers, churches, service organizations and small businesses, demonstrating Thomas' understanding of all its customers' needs.

Today, Thomas Built Buses operates three manufacturing plants producing Type A, C and D buses in High Point, N.C. More than 50 dealers provide sales and service support throughout North America.

Thomas Built's proud tradition of innovative engineering isn't a coincidence. Decade after decade, Thomas has followed one simple philosophy: design and build the kind of school or activity bus we'd want our own children to ride.

Thomas Built Buses, Inc. is a subsidiary of Daimler Trucks North America LLC, the largest heavy-duty truck manufacturer on the continent and a leading manufacturer of class 4-8 vehicles. Daimler Trucks North America produces and markets commercial vehicles under the Freightliner, Western Star and Thomas Built Buses nameplates. Daimler Trucks North America is a Daimler company.

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