U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

OVSC RESUME

Investigation: AQ26002
Prompted By: Public Information
Date Opened: 09/03/2026
Investigator: Syed Rahaman **Reviewer:** Neil Dold
Approver: Otto Matheke
Subject: Tesla Cybercab FMVSS Certification

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Tesla, Inc.
Products: Tesla Cybercab vehicles
Population: 1,000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Examination of the process and technical data on which Tesla relied when certifying the Cybercab and related issues.

ACTION/SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open Audit Query (AQ)

Summary:

On September 3, 2026, Tesla began commercial deployment with a small number of its Cybercab vehicles in Austin, Texas. Tesla notified the Agency that it certified those Cybercab vehicles as compliant with all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS). Tesla also notified the Agency that it plans to gradually expand commercial deployment of the Cybercab to include additional vehicles and locations. The vehicles lack permanently attached, conventional manual controls, such as a brake pedal, gas pedal, steering wheel, and mirrors. NHTSA is opening this AQ to examine the process and technical data on which Tesla relied when certifying the Cybercab and related issues. Among other things, NHTSA will consider the extent to which Tesla's certification depended on determinations that certain FMVSS are inapplicable to the Cybercab.