

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**14V-818****Manufacturer Name :** Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.**Submission Date :** DEC 19,2014**NHTSA Recall No. :** 14V-818**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 2014120006**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

Address : One Mercedes Dr, PO Box 350
Montvale NJ 07645-0350

Company phone : 201-573-5339

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 1,378

Estimated percentage with defect : 1

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E 250 Diesel

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : 46 affected vehicles. 212004

Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E350 Sedan

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 378 affected vehicles. 212059

Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E400 Sedan

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 15 affected vehicles. 212065

Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E400 Sedan 4 Matic

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 21 affected vehicles. 212067

Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E63 Sedan

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 57 affected vehicles. 212076

Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E350 Sedan 4 Matic

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 719 affected vehicles. 212088

Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E250 BlueTec 4 Matic

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : 44 affected vehicles. 212097

Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E63 Wagon
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : STATIONWAGON
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 12 affected vehicles. 212276
Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz E350 Wagon 4 Matic
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : STATIONWAGON
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 86 affected vehicles. 212288
Production Dates : OCT 08, 2014 - OCT 24, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 573, and on behalf of our parent company, Daimler AG (DAG), this submission advises you of a voluntary safety-related recall for certain Mercedes-Benz vehicles. Specifically, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) submits this report regarding the double seat belt buckles for second row seats in certain 2015 Model Year Mercedes-Benz E-Class (212 platform) vehicles. DAG has determined that in individual cases the double seat belt buckle in the second row may not have been manufactured according to specifications. Specifically, the locking cam in the double seat belt buckle for the middle and right rear passenger seats, may not have been properly hardened in the sintering process at the sub-supplier. Subject vehicles are equipped with seat belt load limiters on all seats except for the rear middle passenger seat. Even in the event of a severe frontal crash, the seat belt load limiter will ensure that the belt load magnitude reached at the right rear passenger seat remains at a non-critical level for an affected double seat belt buckle. However, in the event of a severe frontal crash for the rear middle passenger seat, an affected double seat belt buckle may fail under such loading.

Description of the Safety Risk : In the event of a severe frontal crash for the rear middle passenger seat, an affected double seat belt buckle may fail under such loading. This could increase the risk of injury for buckled middle seat passengers under these circumstances.

Description of the Cause : Supplier investigations revealed that a certain batch of locking cams had not been properly hardened by the sub-supplier.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : TRW Automotive GmbH

Address : Industriestraße 20

73553 Alfdorf FOREIGN STATES 73553

Country : Germany

Chronology :

In October 2014, the supplier who manufactures the double seat belt buckle performed production validation testing and found that an individual seat belt buckle did not meet specifications. Supplier investigations revealed that a certain batch of locking cams had not been properly hardened by the sub-supplier.

In November 2014, DAG was informed about this situation. The supplier confirmed that only double seat belt buckles had been produced and shipped for use in Mercedes-Benz vehicles during the potentially affected production time period. Immediately, plant actions were launched to contain vehicles with potentially affected double seat belt buckles. Further investigations were undertaken to determine the magnitude of belt load to failure and to understand the effect of seat belt load limiters on affected double seat belt buckles.

In December 2014, a crash test was conducted in a worst-case scenario to confirm actual seat belt load forces. Based on these investigations, DAG determined that the existence of a safety defect in vehicles already produced and shipped cannot be excluded, and the population of potentially affected vehicles was identified.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : MBUSA will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for the subject vehicles described above as a precautionary measure to replace the double seat belt buckle on the potentially affected vehicles. MBUSA does not plan to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners because all involved vehicles from model year 2015 remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The locking cam in the double seat belt buckle for the middle and right rear passenger seats, have been properly hardened in the sintering process at the sub-supplier.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The locking cam in the double seat belt buckle for the middle and right rear passenger seats, have been properly hardened in the sintering process at the sub-supplier beginning October 25, 2014

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer notification 12/23/2014. Planned recall launch in late January, 2015 when parts are available. Planned owner notification February, 2015.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 23, 2014 - DEC 23, 2014

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported