

#### MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC

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# newschannel update

то: Mercedes-Benz Dealer Principals, General Managers, Sales Managers, Service Managers, Parts Managers	FROM: Thomas Brunner, Department Manager, Vehicle Compliance and Analysis, Engineering Services
RE:Recall Campaign with Stop-Sale Order-Second Row Double Seat Belt Buckle. Model 212 (E-Class) Model Year 2015	DATE: December 23, 2014

## IMPORTANT RECALL INFORMATION AND STOP SALE ORDER

Effective immediately, a stop sale is required for Model Year 2015 E-Class vehicles (sedan and wagons) identified in the attached VIN file and in VMI as a "Pending" Recall.

The affected vehicles that are in dealer inventory, or may be arriving at your dealerships from the VPC's, must be held, and not dealer traded, or used for loaner or demonstration purposes until further instructions are provided.

#### What's the Issue:

Daimler AG (DAG) has determined that on approximately 1,378 Model Year 2015 E-Class vehicles the double seat belt buckle in the second row may not have been manufactured according to specifications. 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. This could increase the risk of injury for buckled middle seat passengers under these circumstances.



Given this notice, it is <u>a violation of Federal law</u> for a dealer to sell or lease any new Model Year 2015 E-Class vehicle covered by this notification in dealer inventory until the vehicle has been repaired. See attached VIN file.

### What We're Doing:

MBUSA has initiated a voluntary recall of all potentially affected vehicles described above. The recall will be conducted to replace the double seatbelt buckle in the second seating row on affected vehicles. MBUSA notified the NHTSA on December 19, 2014 of this new recall, which may generate questions from your customers.

#### **Next Steps:**

- <u>There are currently no parts available.</u> This recall is scheduled to launch late January 2015, when parts become available.
- If a customer has a question regarding the seating of an occupant in the second row middle seat, please have them contact the Customer Assistance Center.

While we regret any inconvenience this may cause, MBUSA is determined to maintain a high level of vehicle quality and customer satisfaction.

Please refer all customer inquiries to the Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-FOR-MERCedes (1-800-367-6372).

