

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****15V-192****Manufacturer Name :** Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.**Submission Date :** MAR 27,2015**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-192**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**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 : 1,000

Estimated percentage with defect : 1

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2014-2015 smart smart Coupe

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Volumes and production dates are preliminary and will be updated in the coming days. 451.331 WMEEJ3 XX affected vehicles

Production Dates : MAR 01, 2015 - MAR 01, 2015

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2014-2015 smart smart Coupe Electric

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : Volumes and production dates are preliminary and will be updated in the coming days. 451.390 WMEEJ9 XX affected vehicles

Production Dates : MAR 01, 2015 - MAR 01, 2015

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2014-2015 smart smart convertible

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Volumes and production dates are preliminary and will be updated in the coming days. 451.431 WMEEK3 XX affected vehicles

Production Dates : MAR 01, 2015 - MAR 01, 2015

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2014-2014 smart smart convertible Electric

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : Volumes and production dates are preliminary and will be updated in the coming days. 451.490 WMEEK9 XX affected vehicles

Production Dates : MAR 01, 2015 - MAR 01, 2015

**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 report advises you of the determination of a safety-related defect in certain smart vehicles. Specifically, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) submits this report regarding the fixation bolts of the steering gear in certain Model Year 2014 – 2015 smart fortwo (451 platform) vehicles. DAG has determined that on certain smart fortwo vehicles (451 platform) produced between PRELIMINARY INFORMATION, the steering gear bolts on the front cross member might have been manufactured outside of production specifications. Due to a production deviation at a supplier, a certain batch of bolts might not meet the endurance requirements. The percentage of vehicles that are projected to actually contain the issues described is unknown.

Description of the Safety Risk : Should a vehicle have been manufactured containing the affected bolts, these bolts might break during the lifetime of the vehicle if exposed to high loads in combination with vibrations.  
Should one of the two bolts on the cross member break, vehicle handling would be impacted, increasing the risk of an accident.

Description of the Cause : Analysis determined that all affected bolts were part of a certain production batch at a supplier manufactured outside of production specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Drivers would be alerted by perceptible noises while driving, a potentially tilted steering wheel position and potentially the activation of the ESP warning lamp.

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : Fontana Luigi S.p.A

Address : Via Fontana, 9

Veduggio FOREIGN STATES 20050

Country : Italy

**Chronology :**

In the beginning of January 2015, DAG launched initial investigations based on individual field reports from outside the US describing instances in which customers allegedly experienced the subject condition outlined above. No third party damages or personal injuries were reported. In addition, parts of affected vehicles were requested for further analysis.

DAG determined that, in the analyzed cases, one of the two steering gear fixation bolts was broken. Further analysis determined that all affected bolts were part of a certain production batch at a supplier. Further investigations were performed to check the potentially affected batch at the supplier and a deviation from production specifications was found for this specific batch.

In February 2015, DAG reviewed logistics documents together with the supplier to determine which steering assemblies might potentially be affected. Further analyses was done to identify potentially affected vehicles. In March 2015, DAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be excluded.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : MBUSA will conduct a voluntary safety recall campaign for the subject vehicles described above to replace both steering gear bolts. MBUSA does not plan to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners because all involved vehicles remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Replacement steering gear bolts are within production specification.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Preliminary. Will be completed shortly.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : NR

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

\* NR - Not Reported