

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

16V-901

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

Submission Date : DEC 12, 2016

NHTSA Recall No. : 16V-901

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

Number of potentially involved : 10

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

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Company phone : 1-800-367-6372

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2014-2014 Mercedes-Benz CLA250

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 117.344 SJ4E (10 Vehicles)

Production Dates : DEC 14, 2012 - APR 24, 2013

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Daimler AG ('DAG') the manufacturer of Mercedes-benz vehicles has determined that on certain CLA vehicles (117,) with the M270 gasoline engine, the connector end fitting from the vacuum line to the brake booster may be susceptible to breakage.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Should the connector end fitting break, the brake booster would no longer be supplied with vacuum. The available vacuum in the brake booster would be retained by a non-return valve, and would decrease gradually when the brake is applied. Subsequently, the brake force support would decrease gradually, as well. After approximately 2 - 4 applications of the brake, the vacuum inside the brake booster would be expended, and brake force support would no longer be available. In that condition, the brake pedal would need to be applied with higher force. This situation could also occur for the driver without prior notice and thus, depending on the traffic situation, may increase the risk of a crash

Description of the Cause : Due to a production deviation at a supplier, the connection piece from the vacuum line from a certain production range might not meet the endurance requirements.

Identification of Any Warning NR
that can Occur :

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : TI Automotive Systems Germany GmbH
Address : 11 Dischingerstraße
Heidelberg FOREIGN STATES 69123
Country : Germany

Chronology :

In 2014, DAG launched initial investigations based on individual field reports describing instances in which customers allegedly experienced the subject condition outlined above. In addition, parts of affected vehicles were requested for further analysis.

DAG determined that, in the analyzed cases, the connection piece of the brake booster vacuum line was broken.

In the following months, DAG conducted detailed analyses into the root cause for the breakage of the connection piece, together with the supplier of the vacuum line and the sub-supplier of the connection piece. The analyses included production influences at the supplier side, as well as potential assembly influences in DAG's vehicle assembly plants. A clear root cause for the issue could not be determined at that time.

In late 2015, a Six Sigma Black Belt project was initiated in order to identify the root cause for the issue and potential influences from different vehicle and engine models. As a result, it was found that in the production range of the potentially affected vehicles, main contributors to the defect mechanism were material insufficiencies of the connection piece, the application of high forces during the assembly process of the vacuum line at the supplier and different load conditions during vehicle operation (e.g. vibrations, temperature), depending on vehicle and engine models.

In early December 2016, DAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be ruled out.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer, will replace the connector end fitting to the brake booster on the affected vehicles.

How Remedy Component Differs NR
from Recalled Component :

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified in January 2017 and customers will be notified February 2017.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported