



Defect Information Report

Maserati S.p.A. has determined that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in model year 2015 Maserati Ghibli vehicles. Maserati North America, Inc. (MNA) is providing this notification to your office in accordance with **49 C.F.R. Part 573**.

Maserati S.p.A. and MNA have determined that the above described vehicles may have been manufactured with a right and/or left-hand side front wheel bearing that was insufficiently hardened. An insufficiently hardened front wheel bearing will not be able to withstand high heat transfers which is normally experienced in certain driving conditions, especially if the vehicle is carrying heavier loads, and can potentially fail, increasing the risk of a crash.

As noted below, a total of 7 MY2015 vehicles with this defect have been sold or leased to customers, and thus this notification relates to those vehicles.

The information, to the extent currently available to MNA follows:

1. **Manufacturer's Name and Address.**

Maserati North America, Inc.
250 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 07632

2. **Identification of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect.**

The affected vehicles consist of model year 2015 Maserati Ghibli vehicles. A draft bulletin which includes the affected VIN's will be supplied when available.

3. **Total Number of Vehicles.**

The total population of model year 2015 Maserati Ghibli vehicles potentially in the affected VIN range is 7 that have been sold or leased to customers.

Continued on next page



4. Approximate percentage of vehicles Estimated to Contain the Defect.

Potentially 100% of all seven (7) units within the affected VIN range may contain the defect.

5. Description of the Defect.

The defect has been identified as a right and/or left-hand side front wheel bearing that was insufficiently hardened. An insufficiently hardened front wheel bearing will not be able to withstand high heat transfers which is normally experienced in certain driving conditions, especially if the vehicle is carrying heavier loads, and can potentially fail, increasing the risk of a crash.

6. Chronology of Events leading to this Defect Determination.

Please note the following chronology of events:

- a. On April 11th 2016 Maserati opened an investigation as a result of 1 (one) claim from the China market regarding noise and vibration issues experienced by the customer during normal driving conditions.
- b. The vehicle was subsequently inspected by dealer and showed wheel bearing failure with scratches on the internal surface side of the bearing.
- c. The part was delivered for technical material analysis to Maserati SpA on May 30th, 2016.
- d. The first analysis performed confirmed the failure stated by the dealer, and the part was then sent to the supplier for further diagnosis.
- e. The supplier completed its diagnosis on June 17th, 2016, addressing as the root cause for bearing failure, a defective hardening process which occurred in its production line on April 30th, 2015 which affected batch of 158 parts.
- f. Maserati conducted an extensive internal investigation on July 4th which continued through August, 2016 (to ensure the issue was contained and validated for accuracy), and following this information (within the component traceability data available in the Maserati manufacturing process database), 99 vehicles were identified as potentially equipped with the defective part.
- g. On the 1st September 2016 Maserati decided to issue a vehicle safety recall.

NOTE: As of September 1, 2016, Maserati is unaware of any accidents or injuries potentially related to this issue.

Continued on next page



7. Test Results and Other Information.

None at this time.

8. Description of Proposed Remedy.

The proposed remedy is the inspection of the right and left-hand side front wheel bearings, and based on the inspection, one side or both the right and left-hand side front wheel bearings on the affected vehicles will be replaced. The remedy will be performed free of charge to the vehicle owner. The internal number we have assigned to this action is recall 310.

Maserati anticipates having the parts available within 30 days. All customers for whom this remedy is required, and our dealers, will receive notification of the remedy campaign. MNA intends to send customer notification letters to each owner of an affected vehicle by first-class mail and to call the customer directly, to inform the customer of the problem, and advise the customer to contact their local Authorized Maserati Dealer to schedule an appointment to repair the affected vehicle. We will also be posting it on the Maserati USA website under "Services" by VIN. Because all of the vehicles that potentially have the defect are 2015 models, all of the affected vehicles are currently under warranty, and no customers would have incurred any costs to obtain a pre-notification remedy of this defect. Accordingly, MNA requests that it be excused from the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 573.6(c)(8), 573.13, and 577.11 to provide notification to owners that they may be eligible for reimbursement of the costs of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of this defect. 49 C.F.R. § 573.13(d) permits manufacturers to "exclude reimbursement for costs incurred within the period during which the manufacturer's original or extended warranty would have provided for a free repair of the problem addressed by the recall, without any payment by the consumer." In addition, 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e) contemplates that, upon written request by the manufacturer, NHTSA may determine that the manufacturer is not required to provide notification concerning reimbursement for pre-notification remedies because all covered vehicles are under warranty. Thus, MNA's request to be excused from the obligation of specifying a reimbursement program in this report, and of providing notification to owners concerning it, is consistent with the regulations governing reimbursement for pre-notification remedies.

Continued on next page



9. Campaign Schedule and Draft Notices.

Maserati expects to launch the recall within 30 days of this notification to NHTSA, as well as additional dealer materials including a draft copy of the recall campaign instruction bulletin. MNA has assigned this campaign an internal Maserati number of **310**.

10. Representative Copies of Notifications that Relate to the Defect and Have Been Sent to More than One Manufacturer, Distributor, Dealer, or Purchaser.

There are no notices, bulletins or other communications that relate directly to the defect and have been sent by MNA to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser.

Should you have questions concerning this submission, please contact me at your earliest convenience at 201-816-2638.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel E. Doku".

Daniel Doku
Manager, Certification & Compliance
Maserati North America, Inc.
250 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 07632
Tel: 201-816-2638
Email: ddoku@maseratiusa.com