

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

March 2, 2017

Mr. R. Thomas Brunner Dept Manager VCA Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC. 1 Mercedes Drive Montyale, NJ 07645

Subject: Starting Current Limiter may Overheat

Dear Mr. Brunner:

This letter serves to acknowledge Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

MERCEDES BENZ/C300/2015-2017

MERCEDES BENZ/C350E/2016

MERCEDES BENZ/C450/2016-2017

MERCEDES BENZ/CLA250/2015 and 2017

MERCEDES BENZ/CLA45 AMG/2015 and 2017

MERCEDES BENZ/E300/2017

MERCEDES BENZ/E400/2017

MERCEDES BENZ/E43 AMG/2017

MERCEDES BENZ/GLA250/2017

MERCEDES BENZ/GLC300/2016-2017

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 23, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V-114

# **Components:**

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:STARTER ASSEMBLY ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING:ENGINE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 307,628

## **Problem Description:**

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC. (MBUSA) is recalling certain 2015-2017 C300 4Matic, C300, CLA250, CLA250 4Matic and CLA45 AMG vehicles, 2017 C300 4Matic Cabrio, C300 4Matic Coupe, C300 Cabrio, C300 Coupe, E300, E300 4Matic, E400 4Matic Wagon, E43 AMG 4Matic, GLA250, GLA250 4Matic and GLC300 4Matic Coupe vehicles and 2016 C350e and GLC300 vehicles and 2016-2017 C450 4Matic AMG Sport and GLC300 4Matic vehicles. In the event that the engine or transmission cannot turn over, the starting current limiter may overheat from the repeated attempts of the starter motor attempting to start the vehicle.

#### **Consequence:**

If the starting current limiter overheats, the surrounding components can melt, increasing the risk of a fire.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-150TB

17V-114

### Remedy:

MBUSA will notify owners, and dealers will install an additional fuse in the electrical line to the starter, free of charge. Parts to remedy the vehicles are not currently available. Owners will be notified of the recall beginning in late March 2017. Owners will be mailed a follow up notice when remedy parts are available, currently expected to be in July 2017. Owners may contact MBUSA customer service at 1-800-367-6372.

#### Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Tariq Bond who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5472, or by email at tariq.bond@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

