Part 573 Safety Recall Report 17V-114

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.
Submission Date : MAR 14, 2017
NHTSA Recall No. : 17V-114
Manufacturer Recall No. : NR

NHTSA
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.
Address : One Mercedes Dr, PO Box 350
Montvale NJ 07645-0350
Company phone : 1-800-367-6372

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 307,629
Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz C 300 4MATIC
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 4-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 205.049 WF4K 100401 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz C 300
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 4-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 205.048 WF4J 79371 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz C 300 4MATIC Cabrio
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 2-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 205.449 WK4K 1057 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz C 300 4MATIC Coupe
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 4-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 205.349 WJ4K 4245 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz C 300 Cabrio
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 2-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 205.448 WK4J 1195 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 6 : 2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz C 300 Coupe
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 2-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 205.348 WJ4J 5031 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 7 : 2016-2016 Mercedes-Benz C 450 4MATIC AMG Sport
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 4-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 205.064 WF6E 7123 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 8 : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz CLA 250
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 4-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 117.344 SJ4E 6188 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 9 :	2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz CLA 250 4MATIC
Vehicle Type :	LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style :	4-DOOR
Power Train :	GAS
Descriptive Information :	117.346 SJ4G 3823 Vehicles
Production Dates :	FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 10 :	2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz CLA 45 AMG
Vehicle Type :	LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style :	4-DOOR
Power Train :	GAS
Descriptive Information :	117.352 SJ5C 241 Vehicles
Production Dates :	FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 11 :	2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz E 300
Vehicle Type :	LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style :	4-DOOR
Power Train :	GAS
Descriptive Information :	213.048 ZF4J 16700 Vehicles
Production Dates :	FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 12 :	2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz E 300 4MATIC
Vehicle Type :	LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style :	4-DOOR
Power Train :	GAS
Descriptive Information :	213.049 ZF4K 15072 Vehicles
Production Dates :	FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 13 :	2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz E 400 4MATIC Wagon
Vehicle Type :	LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style :	STATIONWAGON
Power Train :	GAS
Descriptive Information :	213.266 ZH6G 11 Vehicles
Production Dates :	FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 14 : 2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz E 43 AMG 4MATIC
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : 4-DOOR
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 213.064 ZF6E 243 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 15 : 2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz GLA 250
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : SUV
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 156.944 TG4E 5464 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 16 : 2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz GLA 250 4MATIC
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : SUV
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 156.946 TG4G 6181 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 17 : 2016-2016 Mercedes-Benz GLC 300
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : SUV
Power Train : NR
Descriptive Information : 253.948 0G4J 25975 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 18 : 2016-2016 Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 4MATIC
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : SUV
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : 253.949 0G4K 27305 Vehicles
Production Dates : FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 19 :	2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 4MATIC Coupe
Vehicle Type :	LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style :	SUV
Power Train :	GAS
Descriptive Information :	253.349 0J4K 1969 Vehicles
Production Dates :	FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
VIN Range 1 :	Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 20 :	2016-2016 Mercedes-Benz C 350e
Vehicle Type :	LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style :	4-DOOR
Power Train :	HYBRID ELECTRIC
Descriptive Information :	205.047 WF4H 33 Vehicles
Production Dates :	FEB 01, 2014 - FEB 01, 2017
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 decided that on certain CLA (117 platform), GLA (156 platform), C-Class (205 platform), E-Class (213 platform) and GLC (253 platform) vehicles, the starting current limiter could be overloaded under certain conditions during the starting procedure.
FMVSS 1 :	NR
FMVSS 2 :	NR
Description of the Safety Risk :	In the event the starter is blocked due to engine/transmission damage (e.g. hydro locked engine), a very high electric current would flow through the starting current limiter during the subsequent start attempt. Should the driver attempt to start the engine repeatedly despite the engine not cranking, the very high electric current draw might lead to overheating of the starting current limiter. In a worst case, surrounding components might melt, and potentially ignite and lead to a fire.
Description of the Cause :	The starting current limiter is designed for typical current draw and unable to handle very high current under unique circumstances when the engine/ transmission is damaged to the point where it is unable to crank
Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :	NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Gruner AG
Address : 15-17 Bürglestr
Wehingen FOREIGN STATES D-78564
Country : Germany

Chronology :

In June 2016, DAG launched initial investigations based on individual field reports describing instances in which customers allegedly experienced cases of thermally damaged starting current limiters.
Parts of affected vehicles were requested for further analysis.
DAG determined in August 2016 that, in the analyzed cases, the starting current limiter was damaged due to electrical overload.
Throughout September and October 2016, possible root causes for the electric overload were investigated based on descriptions from field reports. Additionally, internal tests on test benches and in exemplar vehicles were conducted. It was determined that the blocking of the starter due to prior engine/transmission damage was an essential pre-condition for the observed defect on the starting current limiter.
In November and December 2016, the defect mechanism on the starting current limiter in the event of a blocked starter was analyzed. It was determined that multiple start attempts after the occurrence of a blocked starter might lead to the condition of an electrically overloaded starting current limiter.
In January 2017, the range of potentially affected vehicles was determined together with the supplier and the assembly plants.
In the beginning of February 2017, DAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be ruled out.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program :	As a precautionary measure an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will install an additional fuse in the electrical line to the starter. Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), MBUSA does not plan to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since all involved vehicles remain covered under the vehicle's New Vehicle Limited Warranty
How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :	NR
Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :	NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule :	Owners will be notified with an interim letter in late March, and again when parts become available in July 2017, approximately one week after recall launch to the dealers. Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in February 2017. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.
Planned Dealer Notification Date :	NR - NR
Planned Owner Notification Date :	NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported