



Defect Information Report

Maserati S.p.A. has determined that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in model year 2018, Maserati Quattroporte vehicles, equipped with the V6 and V8 gasoline engine, as well as Ghibli vehicles, equipped with V6 gasoline engine. 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 were manufactured with a potential fuel leakage, at the quick connectors, within the engine compartment and underfloor of vehicle connectors due to an excessive peeling of the plastic fuel line end during the preliminary phase before the fuel line quick connector is assembled onto the line. Potential other fuel leaks may be due to foreign particles introduced during the connection process between the metal fuel line and plastic fuel line, causing scratches on the plastic fuel line. Consequences of the defect would indicate a potential for Fuel leakage from the fuel line.

As noted below, a total of 1,406 MY2018 vehicles with this defect have been sold, leased to customers, or are located in dealer inventory, and thus this notification relates to those vehicles. **Please note that out of an overabundance of caution, Maserati has issued an immediate STOP SALE order to our dealer network.**

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

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

Maserati North America, Inc.
One Chrysler Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

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

The affected vehicles consist of model years 2018, Maserati Quattroporte vehicles, equipped with the V6 and V8 gasoline engine, as well as Ghibli vehicles, equipped with V6 gasoline engine. Vehicles not affected by this recall were not exposed to the batch of parts declared by supplier as contributing to the defect. A draft bulletin which includes the affected VIN's will be supplied when available.

3. Total Number of Vehicles.

The total population of model years 2018 Maserati Quattroporte and Ghibli vehicles potentially in the affected VIN range is 1,406.

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

Potentially 100% of all units within the affected VIN range may contain the defect.

5. Description of the Defect; Identification and Description of the Risk to Motor Vehicle Safety.

The suspect vehicles may experience a fuel leakage, at the quick connectors, within the engine compartment and underfloor of vehicle connectors due to an excessive peeling of the plastic fuel line end during the preliminary phase before the fuel line quick connector is assembled onto the line. Potential other fuel leaks may be due to foreign particles introduced during the connection process between the metal fuel line and plastic fuel line, causing scratches on the plastic fuel line. If the leakage occurs, fuel will weep from the fuel line.

A weeping or leaking fuel line may lead to a vehicle fire in the engine compartment or underneath the vehicle which could cause injury to persons in or around the vehicle.

6. Chronology of Principal Events leading to this Defect Determination.

Please note the following chronology of events:

- a. On December 11, 2017, Maserati opened an investigation as a result of two incidents from Functional Test Drive ("TFD") testing regarding fuel leakage and immediately informed the Supplier about the issue.
- b. On December 12, 2017, as result of first level analysis, root cause of the fuel leakage was determined to be chips on the metal fuel line pipe where it connects to the plastic fuel pipe line.
- c. On December 14, 2017, the Supplier communicated to Maserati that the failure is due to a process deviation and identified the affected period and parts number involved and following this information (with the component traceability data available in the Maserati manufacturing process database), vehicles were identified are potentially equipped with the defective part.
- d. On December 15, 2017, Maserati decided to communicate the stop of sales to markets involved. (No Customer in US/Canada)
- e. On December 15, 2017, Maserati communicated the intention to open specific action in the next 30 days.

7. Description of Proposed Remedy.

The proposed remedy is to install a new fuel delivery line kit onto the affected vehicles.

The remedy will be performed free of charge to the vehicle owner. The internal number we have assigned to this action is recall 363.

Maserati plans to notify dealers and customers on or before February 9, 2017. 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 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 "Recall by VIN" by VIN. Because all of the vehicles that potentially have the defect are 2018 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.

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

A stop sale notice has been sent to dealers with affected vehicles in stock. There are no additional 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.

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9. Part Number.

The defective part numbers of the fuel line kits for replacement are 670031550, 670031551, 670031569, 6700315690.

Should you have questions concerning this submission, please contact me at your earliest convenience at 248-576-6737.

Sincerely,

Danielle M. House
Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Responsible
Maserati North America, Inc.
One Chrysler Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326