

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 18V-456

**Manufacturer Name :** Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.**Submission Date :** SEP 07, 2018**NHTSA Recall No. :** 18V-456**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

Address : 13470 International Parkway  
Jacksonville FL 32218

Company phone : 1-877-496-3691

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 10,826

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2017-2018 Mercedes-Benz C300 Cabriolet

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 205.448 WK4J 4492 vehicles.

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles not affected by the recall have the correct bonding.

Production Dates : MAY 11, 2016 - OCT 17, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2017-2018 Mercedes-Benz C300 4MATIC Cabriolet

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 205.449 WK4K 3475 vehicles.

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles not affected by the recall have the correct bonding.

Production Dates : MAY 11, 2016 - OCT 17, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2017-2018 Mercedes-Benz AMG C43 Cabriolet

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 205.464 WK6E 1667 vehicles.

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles not

affected by the recall have the correct bonding.

Production Dates : MAY 11, 2016 - OCT 17, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2017-2018 Mercedes-Benz AMG C63 Cabriolet

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 205.486 WK8G 483 vehicles.

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles not affected by the recall have the correct bonding.

Production Dates : MAY 11, 2016 - OCT 17, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 2017-2018 Mercedes-Benz AMG C63 S Cabriolet

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 205.487 WK8H 709 vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles not affected by the recall have the correct bonding.

Production Dates : MAY 11, 2016 - OCT 17, 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 determined that on certain C-Class Cabriolet vehicles (A205 platform) the bonding of the rear beltline trim might not meet production specifications.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In this case, the aluminum profile of the beltline trim might separate from the vehicle while driving. This might pose a risk of injury to other road users.

Description of the Cause : Cause of Defect

Due to a production deviation at a supplier, the bonding of the rear beltline trim might not meet production specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The occupants will not receive an advance warning due to the nature of the failure mechanism.

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : SAM automotive GmbH  
Address : Kolomanstrasse 16-20  
Boehmenkirch FOREIGN STATES D-89558  
Country : Germany

**Chronology :**

In October 2017, DAG launched initial investigations into the issue when an insufficiently bonded rear beltline trim was identified during an internal quality check at the assembly plant. The aluminum profile of the beltline trim had shown a partial delamination from the base part.

November 2017, investigations were conducted together with the supplier of the component, and several parameters affecting the bonding between base part and the aluminum profile of the rear beltline trim were analyzed. The analyses showed that the necessary application of a primer to the base part was not ensured in the production process.

In the following weeks, analysis and process optimizations were conducted at the supplier in order to ensure proper bonding of the beltline trim components.

Beginning in February 2018, DAG conducted further analyses in order to determine the short- and long-term consequences of having insufficient or no primer application to the strength of the bond.

Also, investigations to determine whether a partial delamination could progress until a complete separation of the aluminum profile from the base part were conducted.

These investigations were concluded in June 2018 and showed that a separation of the aluminum profile from the base part could not be ruled out.

In June 2018, DAG in conjunction with the supplier reviewed logistics documents to determine the potentially affected population of beltline trim parts, as well as potentially affected vehicles.

In the beginning of July 2018, DAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be ruled out.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : As a precautionary measure Daimler AG, via its Mercedes-Benz service partners, will check the rear beltline trim on the affected vehicles and replace it, if necessary. 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 new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Rear beltline trim component with correct bonding.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the production procedure of our supplier ensures that this issue can no longer occur from November 30, 2017 onwards.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Owners will be notified with an interim letter in early September 2018, and again approximately one week after recall launch to the dealers.

Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in July 2018. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 20, 2018 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 07, 2018 - NR

\* NR - Not Reported