

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18V-906

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

Submission Date : MAR 01, 2019

NHTSA Recall No. : 18V-906

Manufacturer Recall No. : 2019020008



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 : 2,364

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2018 Mercedes-Benz C300 4MATIC

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 205.049 WF4K 1030 vehicles.

The recall population was determined through Voice of Customer Audit.

Unaffected vehicles have headlamps which were adjusted within specifications.

Production Dates : JAN 26, 2018 - MAY 25, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2018-2018 Mercedes-Benz C300

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 205.048 WF4J 1334 vehicles.

The recall population was determined through Voice of Customer Audit.

Unaffected vehicles have headlamps which were adjusted within specifications.

Production Dates : JAN 26, 2018 - MAY 25, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : Daimler AG (“DAG”), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on certain C-class vehicles (205 platform) the headlamps might have been adjusted outside production specifications.

FMVSS 1 : 108 - Lamps, reflective devices, and assoc. Equipment

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In consequence, the low beam range might not comply with local legal requirements.
Even in this case, blinding of oncoming traffic can be ruled out as the setting range does not exceed 0.00%. An insufficiently illuminated roadway would increase the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Due to wear of the headlight adjustment system the headlights were not adjusted according to production specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The customer might be made aware of the issue by reduced headlight range.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

In March 2018, DAG launched initial investigations after routine quality checks revealed improper headlamp adjustment on single vehicles.

In April 2018, root cause analyses were initiated.

In May 2018, wear of the headlamp adjustment system in the plant was identified as the root cause. Subsequently, the headlamp adjustment system was optimized.

From August 2018 on, further checks of production data were conducted to identify to what degree the headlamp of each vehicle might have been misadjusted. This investigation revealed that not only single vehicles were affected by this issue but the whole production range.

Finally, it was concluded that blinding of oncoming traffic can be ruled out.

However, DAG determined that local legal requirements might not be met.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : As a precautionary measure, an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will first check the basic setting of the headlamps on the affected vehicles and correct 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 vehicle's New Vehicle Limited Warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : None.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : An optimization of the headlight adjustment system ensures that this issue can no longer occur from May 26, 2018 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign in January 2019. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Owners will be notified with a letter in February 2019, approximately one week after recall launch to the dealers.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 04, 2019 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : FEB 15, 2019 - NR

* NR - Not Reported