

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19V-584

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

Submission Date : SEP 10, 2019

NHTSA Recall No. : 19V-584

Manufacturer Recall No. : 2019080006



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 : 1

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2019 Mercedes-Benz S450

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 222.166 UG6G 1 Vehicle

The recall population was determined through production records.

Vehicles outside the recall population have A, B, C pillar covers installed according to current production specifications

Production Dates : AUG 22, 2018 - AUG 22, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WDDUG6GB9KA440261 **End :** WDDUG6GB9KA440261 ☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Daimler AG ("DAG"), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on a certain Model Year ("MY") 2019 S-Class vehicle, (222 platform) the A, B, and C pillar covers might not be installed according to current production specifications.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The incorrect installation of the A, B and C pillar covers could result in the detachment of the covers in the event of a crash necessitating the activation of the curtain airbag. Detachment of the covers could increase the risk of injury to vehicle occupants.

Furthermore, the curtain airbag might not deploy as intended increasing the risk of injury in the event of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Due to a process deviation in the assembly plant, the A, B and C pillar covers might not have been installed according to current production specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The customer might notice rattling noises from the pillar cover or the presence of a visible gap between the pillar cover and the vehicle pillar.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

During final inspection at the assembly plant, one incorrectly installed pillar cover was observed in early September 2018. DAG started its investigation of the issue and it was determined, that the incorrect installation of the pillar covers occurred during rework of the subject vehicle. The rework was necessary due to an incorrect bolt connection of a pillar cover during production. The rework was not performed according to current production specifications only on one side of the vehicle.

As an immediate measure, the rework process for pillar cover bolts was updated and a 100% check of all bolts on the A, B and C pillar covers for both the left and right sides of the vehicles was implemented.

Between October and November 2018, the process for the rework of incorrect pillar cover bolts was analyzed further to rule out any additional causes for an incorrect assembly.

Between December 2018 and April 2019, DAG investigated the potential effects for the different variants of potentially incorrect installed bolts. This analysis included the performance of the pillar cover in a crash and whether there might be any effect on the performance of the curtain airbag as a result of the pillar cover installation.

In parallel DAG also began to identify the range of potentially affected vehicles using production and rework records.

In the beginning of August 2019, 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 check the installation of the pillar covers on the affected vehicles and rework, 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 : The remedy pillar cover will be installed per the current production specifications.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in assembly process in the plant ensures that this issue can no longer occur from September 04, 2018 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in August 16, 2019. Owners will be notified approximately one week after recall launch to the dealers in October 2019. A copy of all communications will be provided when available

Planned Dealer Notification Date : AUG 16, 2019 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 08, 2019 - NR

* NR - Not Reported