

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 19V-716

**Manufacturer Name :** Daimler Vans USA, LLC**Submission Date :** OCT 08, 2019**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19V-716**Manufacturer Recall No. :** VS3KEIL**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Vans USA, LLC

Address : One Mercedes-Benz Drive  
Sandy Springs GA 30328

Company phone : 854-888-3374

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 153

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2019 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM &amp; HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : VAN

Power Train : DIESEL

**Descriptive Information :** Based on identification of a production error and analysis of the production information, the affected population was determined to be Sprinter (VS30, Platform 907) for the USA and Canada, produced from December 10, 2018 to January 31, 2019. Vehicles outside of the scope of the population contain a correctly installed abutting wedge.

Production Dates : DEC 10, 2018 - JAN 31, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2019-2019 Freightliner Sprinter

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM &amp; HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : VAN

Power Train : DIESEL

**Descriptive Information :** Based on identification of a production error and analysis of the production information, the affected population was determined to be Sprinter (VS30, Platform 907) for the USA and Canada, produced from December 10, 2018 to January 31, 2019. Vehicles outside of the scope of the population contain a correctly installed abutting wedge.

Production Dates : DEC 10, 2018 - JAN 31, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Daimler AG (“DAG”), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner vans, has determined that certain Sprinter vehicles platform 907 (VS30) from the US production plant Charleston (South Carolina) for the North American market, the wedge-type stop on the B-pillar (abutting wedge) on the driver & front passenger side may not have been installed as intended. The abutting wedge could have been mounted on holes that were drilled too large and/or incorrectly rotated.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If a vehicle has an incorrectly installed abutting wedge and is involved in a severe frontal collision, the front doors could compress into the B-pillar. If this were to occur, significantly greater forces may be required to open the doors, which could make it difficult to exit the vehicle or lead to delay in accessing the vehicle from the outside.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning  
that can Occur : NR**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

**Chronology :**

Daimler AG first became aware of a potential issue related to an incorrectly installed abutting wedge following a notification from the production plant in the end of February 2019. The production plant observed isolated instances of the abutting wedge not having been installed to specification at the end of the production line. Vehicles within the assembly plant were inspected and reworked if necessary.

In order to evaluate the potential impact of a wedge- type stop installed outside of DAG’s specifications, DAG conducted detailed analysis of its performance on the new Sprinter model (VS30) and how the vehicle may respond in different types of vehicle crashes and operating conditions.

The analysis was concluded at the end of August 2019 and indicated that if not installed to specification, the abutting wedge could come lose over time and may not remain in the appropriate position or could fall off.

On October 1, 2019, Daimler AG determined that a safety risk could not be ruled out and decided to initiate a recall campaign.  
To date Daimler AG is not aware of any complaints concerning this matter from the field.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** An authorized Mercedes-Benz or Freightliner Sprinter dealer will check the installation of the wedge-type stop and correct if necessary in the affected vehicles.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), Daimler Vans 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 :** An authorized Mercedes-Benz or Freightliner Sprinter dealer will check the installation of the abutting wedge stop and correct the installation if necessary.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** After recognizing the issue, production employees received additional training and all vehicles located at the plant were checked and corrected if necessary.

## Recall Schedule :

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

**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** OCT 31, 2019 - NOV 15, 2019

**Planned Owner Notification Date :** NOV 22, 2019 - NOV 22, 2019

\* NR - Not Reported