

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19V-768

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

Submission Date : NOV 25, 2019

NHTSA Recall No. : 19V-768

Manufacturer Recall No. : 2019100018



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 : 36

Estimated percentage with defect : 10 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2019 Mercedes-Benz SL450

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 231.466 JK6G 25 Vehicles.

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have a rear axle carrier cast with mounting points manufactured according to current production specifications.

Production Dates : MAR 21, 2019 - MAY 03, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WDDJK6GA0KF057563 End : WDDJK7EA0KF057541 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2019-2019 Mercedes-Benz SL63 AMG

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 231.474 JK7E 1 Vehicle

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have a rear axle carrier cast with mounting points manufactured according to current production specifications.

Production Dates : MAR 21, 2019 - MAY 03, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WDDJK6GA0KF057563 End : WDDJK7EA0KF057541 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2019-2019 Mercedes-Benz SL550

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 231.473 JK7D 10 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have a rear axle carrier cast with mounting points

manufactured according to current production specifications.

Production Dates : MAR 21, 2019 - MAY 03, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WDDJK6GA0KF057563 End : WDDJK7EA0KF057541 ☒ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Daimler AG ("DAG"), manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on certain Model Year ("MY") 2019 SL-class vehicles (231 platform), the mounting point of the left side beam on the rear axle carrier might not meet current production specification. Due to a deviation in the production process at the supplier, occlusions might have been introduced during the casting process in the area of the front left mounting point.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Depending on the position and size of the occlusion in the front left mounting point, the load capacity of this bolt connection might be impaired. Over time, this might lead to a failure of this bolt connection, which would result in significant knocking noise emanating from the rear axle.

If the customer were to ignore these pre-warning noises over a longer period of time, it is possible that the remaining three bolt connections could also fail, thereby affecting vehicle handling, and increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Due to a production deviation at the supplier, a certain batch of cast parts might contain occlusions in the front left mounting point for the rear axle carrier.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The customer may notice a knocking noise from the rear axle.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Martinrea Honsel Germany GmbH

Address : Fritz-Honsel-Straße 30
Meschede FOREIGN STATES 59872

Country : Germany

Chronology :

In the beginning of April 2019, DAG detected a occlusion in the cast part of one single side beam during the milling process. DAG immediately informed the supplier of the side beam and a root cause analysis was initiated. This analysis indicated a deviation in the casting process as a potential cause.

Further investigations commenced to analyze the factors leading to the deviation in the process and the possible impact on the production batches of the side beams. These investigations showed an impairment of a specific production line for the timeframe of a single production batch. Based on these results, the production and logistic records of the supplier were analyzed to determine whether further potentially affected side beams were used during vehicle manufacturing in the DAG plant.

In parallel, the potential position and size of the occlusions were analyzed together with the supplier. It was found, that the occlusion might be contained in the front area of the left side beam for the mounting of the rear axle carrier.

In addition potential effects of an impaired mounting point regarding the load capacity of the bolt connection were analyzed.

In October 2019, DAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be ruled out.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will check the front left bolt connection of the rear axle carrier on the affected vehicles. If the bolt connection is impaired, the defect would be irreparable. In that event, a repurchase of the customer's vehicle will be considered.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11 (e), MBUSA does not plan to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since none of the involved vehicles would have been previously subject to the condition described and all remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Rear axle carrier cast with mounting points manufactured according to current production specifications.

Replacement screw after check:
A0029901503 Screw

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 May 13, 2019 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on November 1, 2019. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign approximately one week after launch to the dealers on November 22, 2019. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 01, 2019 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 22, 2019 - NR

* NR - Not Reported