

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 20V-173

**Manufacturer Name :** Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.**Submission Date :** MAR 25, 2020**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-173**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 : 9,791

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2019 Mercedes-Benz S560

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 2-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz 2018-2019 S560 885 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have updated engine oil plugs that can withstand high engine loads during driving.

Production Dates : MAR 14, 2017 - NOV 15, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2018-2019 Mercedes-Benz S560

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz 2018-2019 S560 8632 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have updated engine oil plugs that can withstand high engine loads during driving.

Production Dates : MAR 14, 2017 - NOV 15, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2018-2019 Mercedes-Benz Maybach S560

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz 2018-2019 Maybach S560 274 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have updated engine oil plugs that can withstand high engine loads during driving.

Production Dates : MAR 14, 2017 - NOV 15, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Mercedes-Benz AG ("MBAG"), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on certain Model Year ("MY") 2018-2019 S-Class (222 platform) and S-Class Coupe/Convertible (217 platform) vehicles equipped with 4.0L 8-cylinder gasoline-engines (M176), the material of two engine oil plugs might not withstand the high engine loads during driving.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The material of the closure plugs might fail to contain high engine oil pressures, which can occur especially during dynamic driving and could result in engine oil leaking from the plugs. The resulting oil leak on the road could create a potential road hazard increasing the risk of a crash for other road users. If the engine oil level were to fall below a certain limit, the driver would be made aware of this issue by a red warning message in the instrument cluster. If the warning message were to be ignored by the driver, the engine could run without the required oil, damaging the engine and result in a vehicle stall.

Description of the Cause : Due to a deviation in the development process, the material of a certain batch of plugs might not withstand the maximum loads while driving.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The customer may be made aware of the issue by a warning message in the instrument cluster.

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

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

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

**Chronology :**

In the end of July 2019, MBAG launched an initial investigation following a failure of a closure plug on an engine in two internal development test vehicles for new car models using a series production engine (S-series platform).

In September 2019 a materials analysis was initiated and later found that the closure plug was produced according to specification, but failed due to a fatigue failure. MBAG continued its analysis to evaluate whether the pressure level in the series production engine, installed in the new car models, exceeded the pressure level specified for S-Class (222 platform) and S-Class Coupe and Convertible (217 platform) vehicles with 4.0L 8-cylinder gasoline-engine. Beginning November 2019 a comprehensive test program was started in order to analyze the behavior of the closure plugs under different pressure levels. In parallel, the potentially affected engines were determined based on production records.

Throughout the analysis, MBAG could not replicate the failure even under the same pressure levels in the internal test which gave rise to the condition. MBAG is not aware of any reports from the field in any market potentially related to this issue.

Nevertheless, on March 13, 2020, MBAG decided to conduct a recall, out of an abundance of caution, although the failure that was observed on the two test vehicles could not be reproduced during all performed tests.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will rework the engine oil plugs on the affected vehicles.

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 : reinforced closure plugs

Part-No.	Part
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A0000111000 - Retaining Plate  
A0000151500 - Sealing Plug

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the material specification of the closure plug on the engine ensures that this issue can no longer occur from May 4, 2019 onwards.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on March 27, 2020. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign approximately one week after launch to the dealers on May 19, 2020. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 27, 2020 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 19, 2020 - NR

\* NR - Not Reported