

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20V-181

Manufacturer Name : Daimler Vans USA, LLC

Submission Date : APR 06, 2020

NHTSA Recall No. : 20V-181

Manufacturer Recall No. : VS3BRADVER



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 : 48,791

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2019 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : VAN

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Based on the identification of a production error and analysis of the production information, the affected population was determined to be Sprinter (VS30, Platform 907) produced from May 16, 2018 to March 12, 2020. Vehicles outside of the scope of the population were delivered with an adapted fender liner.

Production Dates : MAY 16, 2018 - MAR 12, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2019-2019 Freightliner Sprinter

Vehicle Type : BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES

Body Style : VAN

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Based on the identification of a production error and analysis of the production information, the affected population was determined to be Sprinter (VS30, Platform 907) produced from May 16, 2018 to March 12, 2020. Vehicles outside of the scope of the population were delivered with an adapted fender liner.

Production Dates : MAY 16, 2018 - MAR 12, 2020

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 and Freightliner vans, has determined that on certain Sprinter vehicles from platform 907 (VS30) the rear part of the fender liner on the front axle could touch and chafe the brake hose.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the distance between the fender liner and the brake hose is not sufficient, the front wheel suspension could make contact with the brake hose, which could lead to chafing of the brake hose and the loss of brake fluid. Over time, if the operator ignores the brake fluid warning indicator and continues to operate the vehicle until the brake fluid runs dry, this may extend the braking distance and increase the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : fender liner

Component Description : Potentially affected Sprinter 907 front axle fender liner for the left-hand side (forward subcomponent)

Component Part Number : A907 684 00 00

Component Name 2 : fender liner

Component Description : Potentially affected Sprinter 907 front axle fender liner for the left-hand side (rearward subcomponent)

Component Part Number : A907 684 02 00

Component Name 3 : fender liner

Component Description : Potentially affected Sprinter 907 front axle fender liner for the right-hand side (forward subcomponent)

Component Part Number : A907 684 01 00

Component Name 4 : fender liner

Component Description : Potentially affected Sprinter 907 front axle fender liner for the right-hand side (rearward subcomponent)

Component Part Number : A907 684 03 00

Component Name 5 : brake hose

Component Description : Potentially affected Sprinter 907 front axle brake hose (subsequent damage), equal for the left- and right-hand side

Component Part Number : A907 428 42 00; A907 428 29 00; A907 428 96 00; A907 428 30 00; A907 428 31 00

Component Name 6 : brake hose

Component Description : Potentially affected Sprinter 907 front axle brake hose (subsequent damage), equal for the left- and right-hand side

Component Part Number : A907 428 27 00; A907 428 28 00; A907 428 37 00; A907 428 86 00

Component Name 7 : nuts

Component Description : small components

Component Part Number : A 002 990 53 50

Component Name 8 : expanding rivets

Component Description : small components

Component Part Number : A 000 990 54 92

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

In early 2020, MBAG initially became aware of a report from a customer in the United Kingdom where the red brake fluid warning indicator displayed, indicating a brake fluid leak.

MBAG launched an investigation to understand whether this individual report was indicative of a broader issue.

In February - March 2020, MBAG's investigation included a detailed review of the parts and components in the

front axle wheel housing, including tolerances in the mounting process, a materials analysis, geometry analysis and tire sequencing. The investigation found certain fender liner were deformed. Sprinter plants were advised to inspect all vehicles still located at the plant and to check and correct them if necessary.

On March 18, 2020, MBAG determined that a safety risk could not be ruled out and decided to initiate a recall campaign.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz or Freightliner Sprinter dealer will check the condition and clearance of the brake hoses and, if necessary, to renew them. Additionally, the corresponding fender liner will be cut accordingly, on the right and left side of it.

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 condition and clearance of the brake hoses on the front axle and replace them if they were damaged by chafing consequently to a lack of space to the front axle wheelhouse caused by deformation and manufacturing as well as assembly related tolerances of the fender liner. Additionally, the corresponding fender liner will be manually cut to permit additional space between the front axle wheelhouse and the brake lines if necessary.

The corresponding brake hose part number depends on respective vehicle options such as chassis, axle and drive train options as well as vehicle weight classes.

Furthermore, the service organization will replace small components like nuts (A 002 990 53 50) and/or expanding rivets (A 000 990 54 92)

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The condition was corrected in production in February 2020, including vehicles that remained within the plant.

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 April 2020. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 01, 2020 - MAY 01, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 08, 2020 - MAY 08, 2020

* NR - Not Reported