

Chronology of Defect (too many characters for the recall portal comment box)

Chronology:

MBAG first became aware of a potential issue related to the maximum speed information label on the spare wheel through a notification from its production plant in late November 2019. The production plant had identified a small number of vehicles with an incorrect spare wheel maximum speed label. During on-plant vehicle quality inspections it was identified that spare wheels carried metric information labels in kph instead of the Anglo-American variant in mph as specified. MBAG conducted a review of all vehicles that remained at the plant and corrected the metric information if necessary.

In December 2019, MBAG launched an investigation into the label discrepancy including whether the values assigned to the label was accurate for this particular spare wheel. Moreover, the investigation considered whether only vehicles from local US part-by-part production were affected and/or whether those vehicles produced from semi-knocked-down (SKD) vehicle kits supplied from a German MBAG plant including a review of the supply chain of the spare wheels before arriving at the US plant.

In early 2020, MBAG was able to confirm that the maximum speed value that appeared on the label was accurate and that the vehicles affected by the label were SKD vehicles received from the German assembly plant.

MBAG considered the potential effects of the maximum speed labeled as kph instead of mph in the U.S. market and the performance of the particular spare wheel in conditions that exceeded the 34 mph maximum limit.

On March 11, 2020, MBAG determined that a safety risk could not be ruled out and decided to initiate a recall campaign.

Around the same time the initial investigation of this matter began, MBAG also became aware of a different potential issue concerning the maximum speed labeling of spare wheels on Sprinter vehicles. Since the underlying circumstances between these two subjects concerned the same type of labeling, both subjects were analyzed simultaneously.

To date MBAG is not aware of any complaints concerning this matter from the field.