

Mercedes-Benz Part 573 Submission  
Original Submitted to Portal October 2, 2020  
Chronology-Only section  
Supplement to Original Submission

### **Chronology of Defect/Noncompliance Determination**

In July 2018, MBAG launched initial investigations based on a small number of field reports from outside the US describing instances in which customers reported that their vehicle had stalled. No property damages or personal injuries were reported during those incidents. The vehicles involved in these events share the same hybrid drive platform not offered for sale in the US.

The technical analysis continued through the end of 2018 at which point the initial results indicated a potential influence of the contact point of the shield of the high-voltage wiring harness to the power electronics as a possible factor in the reason for the vehicles stalling. The root cause of the failure mechanism of the shield for the high-voltage wiring harness could not be confirmed at that time. Nevertheless, in August 2019 MBAG implemented out of an abundance of caution a change in the design of the contact point of the high-voltage wiring harness shielding to the power electronics, but continued its technical investigation. This change was implemented in production for all hybrid drive platforms, including hybrid platforms offered for sale in the US market that are equipped with the potentially causing shield for the high-voltage wiring harness even though that at this point of time, all of the reported field cases arose from one single hybrid drive platform not offered for sale in the US.

As the investigation was ongoing, MBAG received further field reports involving additional hybrid platforms that appeared to be related to the same issue, however, still no cases had been reported from the US. Further analysis determined that induced shield currents might be higher than initially expected when the vehicle is driven at high speeds and when using electric boost function. MBAG continued to analyze this additional data and conducted an evaluation of the potential effects on the shield across hybrid platforms and depending on various driving conditions beginning in March 2020. Based on these results the potential for stalling in the affected vehicles could not be ruled out over time. On September 25, 2020, MBAG decided to conduct a recall.