

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-056

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC**Submission Date :** JUL 13, 2022**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-056**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 2022050004**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 : 8,199

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz GLE350

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz MY2020 GLE350 7512 vehicles.

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have left exterior reverse lamps that conform to the requirements of FMVSS 108 S7.6.5.

Production Dates : APR 09, 2019 - MAR 19, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz GLE450

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz MY20 GLE450 687 vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have left exterior reverse lamps that conform to the requirements of FMVSS 108 S7.6.5.

Production Dates : APR 09, 2019 - MAR 19, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : Mercedes-Benz AG (“MBAG”), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on certain Model Year (“MY”) 2020 GLE-Class vehicles (167 platform), the lighting control unit may not meet current production specifications. In this case, the left exterior backup lamp may remain illuminated even though the reverse gear of the vehicle’s transmission is no longer selected, a condition which may fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (“FMVSS”) No. 108 S7.6.5.

FMVSS 1 : 108 - Lamps, reflective devices, and assoc. Equipment

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Vibrations introduced into the control unit of the left rear tail lamp could cause a malfunction of the control unit. As a result, the left exterior back up lamp could remain illuminated although the reverse gear of the vehicle is no longer selected. If the left exterior backup lamp remains illuminated though the reverse gear of vehicle’s transmission is not selected, the vehicle may fail to conform to the requirements of FMVSS 108 S7.6.5. Further, this condition may confuse or reduce the ability to warn other motorists of the driver's intention to operate the vehicle in reverse, increasing the risk of a crash. All other external lamps operate to the requirements of FMVSS 108 S7.6.5.

Description of the Cause : Due to a process deviation at the supplier during the circuit board assembly of the control unit, affected control units might not meet current production specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The customer will not receive an advance warning due to the nature of the failure mechanism.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Control Unit

Component Description : Control Unit

Component Part Number : A1679000414

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Hella Automotive Mexico SA de CV

Address : Av. Ing. Antonio Gutierrez Cortina

16 Parque Opcion San Jose Iturbide Foreign States 37980

Country : Mexico

Chronology :

In June 2019, MBAG became aware, during a regular quality inspection in the production process, of a single vehicle which exhibited a permanently illuminated left exterior backup lamp. Subsequently, MBAG initiated an investigation in conjunction with the supplier.

MBAG's supplier found that on the subject control unit, the contact pins for the left exterior backup lamp had been manufactured at the tolerance limit. Accordingly, the supplier redefined their tolerance limits and initiated an optimization of the pin assembly. At this point in time, this case was judged to be an isolated case. In late autumn 2019, MBAG was made aware of a small number of customer complaints where it was reported that the left rear backup lamp remains illuminated.

The vehicles had low vehicle mileage at the time of the report and the investigation was focused on understanding whether these isolated reports were potentially related.

MBAG also initiated an investigation of vehicles located at the all production facilities and Vehicle Preparation Centers and in the winter of 2019, and any vehicles found to have an affected backup lamp were reworked.

Please see updated chronology supplement uploaded June 23, 2022.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will replace the respective control unit 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 : Optimized pin positioning according to current production specifications.

Control Unit - A1679000414

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 8, 2020 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers were notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on February 12, 2021. Owners were notified of the voluntary recall campaign via interim letter on 3/24/2021. A follow-up notification mailed on June 10, 2022. Owner's notification letters mailed in July 12, 2022 for the additional thirteen vehicles. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 01, 2021 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 24, 2021 - NR

* NR - Not Reported