

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 21V-388

**Manufacturer Name :** Tesla, Inc.

**Submission Date :** MAY 25, 2021

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-388

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** SB-21-20-002



## Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Tesla, Inc.

Address : 3500 Deer Creek Road  
Palo Alto CA 94304

Company phone : 650-413-4000

## Population :

Number of potentially involved : 2,166

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

## Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2021 Tesla Model Y

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Select MY 2019-21 Model Y vehicles with similar manufacturing records.

Production Dates : NOV 26, 2019 - MAR 30, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** The second-row left- and right-side seat belt retractor is secured to the vehicle body with a fastener. Cross-threading of the fastener may have prevented it from being secured to the correct specification.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** While we are not aware of any crash or injury resulting from this condition, if the fastener that secures the second-row left- or right-side seat belt retractor is not secured to the correct specification, then the seat belt system may not perform as designed in a crash, which may increase the risk of injury.

**Description of the Cause :** During assembly, if the operator made several unsuccessful attempts to torque the second-row left- or right-side seat belt retractor fastener to the correct specification, he may have unknowingly cross-threaded the fastener, which can compromise the ability to torque the fastener to the correct specification, despite a confirmation in the torque record.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** When the second-row left- or right-side seat belt retractor is pulled during latching and released during unlatching, the customer may detect abnormal noise or behavior coming from the retractor.

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : NR

Component Description : Second-row seat belt retractor attachment, left- and right-side.

Component Part Number : NR

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

## Chronology :

On March 16, 2021, during an unrelated repair of a MY 2021 Model Y, Tesla Service discovered that a second-row seat belt retractor was not secured.

On March 19, 2021, the Factory Quality team initiated a failure analysis of the field incident.

During March 2021, the Factory Quality team analyzed assembly and repair records of the VIN. The records identified several unsuccessful attempts to secure the fastener, followed by a subsequent confirmation that the fastener was secured to the correct specification. After further review, it was determined that the several attempts to secure the fastener may have cross-threaded it, which compromised the ability to secure the fastener to the correct specification, despite the confirmation in the torque record.

From March through April 2021, the failure analysis was expanded with a review of historical assembly and repair records of other Model Y vehicles to confirm the suspected root cause and determine whether the field incident was unique or potentially the result of another root cause. A study of vehicles in Tesla's possession was initiated to validate whether other vehicles with the same or similar torque records showed the condition, during which time we identified one other vehicle with the same condition.

In May 2021, the Factory Team completed the field study and torque record review, confirming the suspected root cause and potentially affected population.

On May 18, 2021, a recall determination was made.

As of this filing, Tesla is not aware of any crash or injury related to this condition.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : On affected vehicles, Tesla Service will inspect and, if necessary, replace the fasteners that secure both second-row seat belt retractors to confirm that they are secured to the correct specification.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Confirmed torque and angle of the fasteners to the correct specifications.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : On March 30, 2021, out of an abundance of caution while the failure analysis continued, a revision was implemented in the assembly step that generated a nonconformance if an operator made more than three unsuccessful attempts to secure the same fastener. The nonconformance required subsequent inspection of the fastener, repair if necessary, and production manager confirmation and approval to close the nonconformance.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : All Tesla stores and service centers will be notified on or about May 26, 2021. Owner notification letters will be mailed in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 577.7.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

\* NR - Not Reported