

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-771

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Submission Date : OCT 21, 2021

NHTSA Recall No. : 21V-771

Manufacturer Recall No. : 2021100001



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 : 3

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz GLS 580

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz 2020 GLS 580 4Matic vehicles. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have an airbag control unit with software parameters according to current production specifications.

Production Dates : MAY 10, 2019 - MAY 22, 2019

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 vehicles, has determined that on certain Model Year ("MY") 2020 GLS-Class vehicles (X167 platform), the airbag control unit software might not meet current production specifications.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the vehicle's airbag control unit software does not meet current production specifications, in the event of a crash with activation of driver's frontal airbag, the risk of injury to the driver might increase.

Description of the Cause : Due to a deviation in the development process, an incorrect parameter data set might have been applied to the airbag control unit.

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

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Airbag Control Unit

Component Description : Airbag Control Unit and Software

Component Part Number : A1679005009

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Mercedes-Benz AG

Address : NR

Foreign States

Country : Germany

Chronology :

In the second quarter of 2019, a certification crash test indicated a possible deviation from the occupant load specified by FMVSS 208 S15 for one single load case, caused by installation of airbag parameters that were different from those that were intended.

Subsequently, MBAG conducted a plant action to rework all affected GLS vehicles. MBAG developed a new parameter data addressing the potential deviation and implemented it in production.

The vehicle plant later determined that in isolated instances affected vehicles might have been released for sale without first being reworked. MBAG commenced an investigation to identify potentially affected vehicles and to determine the effects of the use of those different parameters.

For much of 2020, MBAG operations were severely restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As operations began to resume in the second half of 2020, MBAG conducted further evaluations to identify potential effects of the different parameter data set on the restraint system. In parallel, regulatory compliance was analyzed, which continued into 2021.

From February 2021 on, analyses were carried out to evaluate the potential effects of the variant airbag parameters on occupant load values in the event of a frontal impact. At the same time, MBAG conducted a review to determine if the potentially affected vehicles had been reworked after release from the plant and prior to sale. That review confirmed that a total of three (3) vehicles sold in the US had not received the updated parameter data set. On September 24, 2021, MBAG determined that a potential safety risk could not be ruled out and decided to conduct a recall.

The recall applies to three vehicles determined to not satisfy the load requirements for an unbelted fifth percentile adult female.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer, will replace the airbag control unit, which includes the correct parameter data set, 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 : An airbag control unit with correct parameter data set.

Remedy Part No: A1679005009

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the parameter data set within the airbag control unit ensures that this issue can no longer occur from May 23, 2019 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on October 8, 2021. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign on November 30, 2021. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 08, 2021 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 30, 2021 - NR

* NR - Not Reported