

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-834

Manufacturer Name : Tesla, Inc.**Submission Date :** JAN 12, 2023**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-834**Manufacturer Recall No. :** SB-21-20-006**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Tesla, Inc.

Address : 1 Tesla Road
Austin TX 78725

Company phone : 6506815000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 3

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2023 Tesla Model 3

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes three select Model 3 vehicles, one built on September 20, 2020, another built on December 20, 2020, and another built on December 21, 2022. The recall population was determined based upon a review of manufacturing records.

Production Dates : SEP 20, 2020 - DEC 21, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Noncompliance :**

Description of the Noncompliance : The curtain side airbag is secured to the vehicle interior roof rail at six individual attachment points. A rotation from one attachment point to the next will induce a twist in the airbag, which can have an adverse effect on performance.

FMVSS 1 : 214 - Side impact protection

FMVSS 2 : 226 - Ejection mitigation

Description of the Safety Risk : A twisted curtain side airbag may not deploy properly in a collision, which could increase the risk of occupant ejection or injury.

Description of the Cause : Improper securement of the left- or right-curtain side airbag to the interior rail roof during production.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : M3 - CURTAIN A/B, LH

Component Description : Left side curtain side airbag for Model 3

Component Part Number : 1077827-00-E

Component Name 2 : M3 - CURTAIN A/B, RH

Component Description : Right side curtain side airbag for Model 3

Component Part Number : 1077828-00-E

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

- Beginning on or about August 17, 2021, the Factory Quality team detected a twisted right-hand curtain side airbag on a U.S. Model 3, using the automated vision system on the manufacturing line. The Production Quality and Process Engineering team confirmed that a non-conformance was generated to inspect and, if necessary, repair the twisted condition. The non-conformance was reported as closed prior to factory gating.

- The Production Quality and Process Engineering team commenced an engineering study to confirm production records of the Model 3. Tesla Service inspected the vehicle and discovered a twisted right-hand curtain side airbag. The team determined that the non-conformance on the vehicle was closed without a full repair and repair confirmation.

- From late August to October 2021, the team conducted an investigation into all Model 3 production records, including images captured by vision inspection, repair records and repair confirmation notes. This investigation identified two additional VINs in the U.S., the records from which Tesla could not conclusively determine the left- and right-curtain side airbags were not twisted.

- On October 18, 2021, a recall determination was made.

- From December 22, 2022, to January 6, 2023, Tesla production team investigated a condition in which manual review of vision inspection appeared to have identified a twisted curtain side airbag on the right-hand side of a single Model 3 vehicle.

- On January 9, 2023, results of the investigation were escalated for review and determination
- On January 10, 2023, Tesla made a determination to expand the recall to include the one additional vehicle.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Tesla Service will inspect the vehicles for proper alignment and orientation of the left- and right-curtain side airbag. If a twist or other condition is identified with either curtain side airbag, Tesla Service will realign the airbag to correct specification.

Tesla does not plan to include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since all of the involved vehicles remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy component will be installed and secured without the presence of a twist.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : production stand-down was held with production employees to review the twist condition as well as the sequence for properly installing the curtain side airbag, and with factory repair technicians to review the non-conformance closure as well as the sequence for properly inspecting, repairing and confirming repair prior to closure of the non-conformance. In addition, we are currently conducting daily reviews of any non-conformance of the side curtain airbag that the automated vision system detects. Furthermore, improvements have been made to the curtain side airbag design to increase the visibility of the anti-twist line to the operators and make it easier for the automated vision system to detect any potential abnormalities. Finally, improvements have been made to the vision automation model to accelerate the feedback loop between the inspection station and the repair location in manufacturing.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : All Tesla stores and service centers will be notified on or shortly after October 27, 2021. Owner notification letters will be mailed in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 577.7.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 27, 2021 - JAN 13, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 24, 2021 - MAR 13, 2023

* NR - Not Reported