

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-214

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Submission Date : APR 25, 2022

NHTSA Recall No. : 22V-214

Manufacturer Recall No. : 2022040006



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 : 4

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2021 Mercedes-Benz S 500 4Matic

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz MY2021 S-Class 1 vehicle. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall have the tamper-resistant cover on the electrical connector according to current production specifications.

Production Dates : MAR 02, 2021 - MAY 29, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2021-2021 Mercedes-Benz S 580 4Matic

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz MY2021 S-Class 3 vehicles. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall have the tamper-resistant cover on the electrical connector according to current production specifications.

Production Dates : MAR 02, 2021 - MAY 29, 2021

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") 2021 S-Class (223 platform) vehicles, the tamper-resistant cover on the electrical connector on the steering column module might not have been installed and secured correctly.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In this case, the electrical connector on the steering column module might loosen due to vibrations initiated during driving. If this were to happen, different functions (e.g. ESP, driver airbag, turn indicator) might not be available and gear changes might not be possible, which could subsequently increase the risk of crash and injury.

Description of the Cause : Due to a deviation during internal rework, the tamper-resistant cover on the electrical connector on the steering column module might not have been installed according to specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Before the issue occurs, the driver will not receive a warning due to the nature of the failure mechanism.
When the issue occurs, the driver might notice various warning messages and indicator lamps in the instrument cluster including, but not limited to, the ESP and SRS systems.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Receptacle Housing

Component Description : Tamper-resistant cover

Component Part Number : A0008230245

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Mercedes-Benz AG

Address : NR

Foreign States

Country : Germany

Chronology :

In the beginning of June 2021, MBAG launched initial investigations based on a finding during the vehicle logistics process. During these analyses it was concluded that a tamper-resistant cover on the electrical connector on the steering column module might not have been installed and secured according to specifications during a vehicle rework process.

From end of June 2021 onwards, an additional plant rework campaign was implemented in order to check and rework all potentially affected vehicles that were still accessible to MBAG.

In parallel, MBAG analyzed if any vehicles in the field might be affected. From August 2021 onwards, possible consequences as well as relevant regulations for vehicles in the field were analyzed. These intensive investigations were performed until February 2022 due to the complex nature of the affected components and the related possible impacts. These analyses included the investigation of the mechanisms and factors which might lead to the loosening of the electrical plug without an installed tamper-resistant cover. Furthermore, all affected components and functions which might be impaired were examined and their potential safety-relevant effects during vehicle operation. In parallel, Mercedes-Benz AG is not aware of any customer complaints for this topic. On March 25, 2022, MBAG determined that a potential safety risk could not be ruled out and decided to conduct a recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will check the tamper-resistant cover on the affected vehicles and install it correctly, if necessary.
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 : Tamper-resistant cover on steering column module electrical connector installed to current production specifications. Remedy Part No: A0008230245 - Receptacle Housing

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the rework procedures ensures that this issue can no longer occur from June 17, 2021 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on April 8, 2022. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign on or before May 31, 2022. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : APR 08, 2022 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 06, 2022 - NR

* NR - Not Reported