

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

November 7, 2023

Mr. Greg Gunther Department Manager VCA Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC 13470 International Parkway Jacksonville, FL 32218

Subject: Missing Brake Inspection Gauge/FMVSS 135

Dear Mr. Gunther:

This letter serves to acknowledge Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

MERCEDES-BENZ/A220/2019-2020 MERCEDES-BENZ/AMG A35/2020 MERCEDES-BENZ/AMG CLA35/2020 MERCEDES-BENZ/AMG CLA45/2020 MERCEDES-BENZ/CLA250/2020 MERCEDES-BENZ/GLA250/2021 MERCEDES-BENZ/GLB250/2020

Mfr's Report Date: November 1, 2023

NHTSA Campaign Number: 23V-732

### **Components:**

EQUIPMENT:OTHER:OWNERS/SERVICE/OTHER MANUAL SERVICE BRAKES, HYDRAULIC:FOUNDATION COMPONENTS:DISC:PADS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 42.742

#### **Problem Description:**

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) is recalling certain 2019-2020 A220, 2020 CLA250, GLB250, AMG A35, AMG CLA45, AMG CLA35, and 2021 GLA250 vehicles. The vehicles may not be equipped with an inspection gauge to check the wear of the rear brake pads. In addition, information for using this inspection gauge might not be included in the owner's manual. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 135, "Light Vehicle Brake Systems."

# **Consequence:**

Driving with worn brake pads can reduce braking ability, increasing the risk of a crash.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-107ES

23V-732

# Remedy:

Dealers will install an inspection gauge and provide supplemental owner's manual information, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed December 31, 2023. Owners may contact MBUSA customer service at 1-800-367-6372.

#### **Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.nhtsa.gov.

# Please ensure the following requirements are met:

Please amend the chronology to clarify the population change from the original filing.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

As stated in 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 573.7, submission of the first of eight consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC's contact for this recall will be Emily C. Smith who may be reached by email at emily.c.smith@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

